

OREGON IN AMERICAN LITERATURE

by

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Preface

Two summers spent in Oregon, climbing its mountains, roaming through its forests, following its rivers, and enjoying the beauties of its natural scenery, developed in the writer a desire to know to what extent these natural features had entered into the literature of the country. A region almost cut off from the rest of the world by its mountains, rivers, and forests had developed into a state. What were the factors which had entered into that development, and how had that development been reflected in the literature of the country?

The word "Oregon" as used here applies, not to the old Oregon Territory of history, but to the part of it which is now included in the state of that name.

The term "American Literature" is used, not in a restricted sense of the word, but it is meant to include everything which has been written from a letter to an extensive volume of history or science.

In discussing the part which Oregon has played in historical literature, only those historical events or movements have been dealt with which occurred between the dates of 1803 and 1859. The first date was chosen because, prior to that time, Oregon played but a small,

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vague part in the history of the country; hence, comparatively little has been written concerning that period. The date 1859, the year Oregon entered the Union as a state, was chosen simply as a matter of convenience.

The chapter on history as a contributing element has been divided into two parts. The first part covers the period from 1803 to 1843, and has been called the period of exploration and adventure, since that was the time the trappers were exploring every part of the mountains and forests in search of the beaver; the time when the government was sending out men to report on conditions of a new country; the time when adventurous young men, lured by the tales of wild life in the mountains, were making their way westward; and finally, the time when, filled with religious enthusiasm, the missionaries were leaving their homes in the east to carry the message of the "Great Spirit of the white man" to the Indians.

The second part has been called the "Period of Organization", since it marks the establishment of the Provisional Government which drew its authority merely from the consent of those governed; the transition from the Provisional Government to the Territorial Government, and finally, the entrance into the Union as a state.

In the chapter devoted to the state literature, no

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attempt has been made to cover the whole field. It has been the purpose of the writer to deal chiefly with those authors who reflect the spirit and life of the people of the state.

A bibliography of works on Oregon will be found after the last chapter. Those marked with a star are the works from which material has been drawn for this paper.

I desire to thank Professor S. L. Whitcomb for his assistance in the preparation of this thesis, the other members of the English Graduate Committee for their criticisms on the work, and Mr. Manchester, Librarian of the University of Kansas, for his assistance in securing books.

E. L. R.

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Introduction: The Name

"If there is a statelier name in all our constellation of stars, I have not heard it. Alabama - Here we rest - is sweet, attractive, restful, but the name has not the rush of waters, the misty tang of mold and sombre wood, or cloud tossing trees, the strength, the stir, the color of Oregon: Oye - agua." (Joaquin¹ Miller.)

The name, Oregon, has been a mystery and still remains a mystery to those who have sought to learn its origin and meaning. It is generally agreed by those who have discussed the question, that its first recorded use was by Jonathan Carver in 1778. Carver, a native of New England, spent the winters of 1766-67 with the Indians at the headwaters of the Mississippi River for the purpose of ascertaining "the breadth of the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific". Later, in his published journal, he says, "From these nations and my own observations, I have learned that the four most capital rivers on the continent of North America, viz., the St. Lawrence, the Mississippi, the River Bourbon - Red River of the North, and the Oregon...have

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1. Miller. Songs of the Sierras. Vol. II. p. 184.

their sources in the same neighborhood." Some writers dismiss the subject with the assumption that the name was a pure invention of Carver but others have searched still further for its origin. "For more than thirty years," says Joaquin Miller, "I have made eager inquiry for evidence as to when and by whom in the earliest expeditions the stately names Sierra del Nord and Oye-agua were bequeathed to us on the North Pacific sea bank, but I am today empty-handed..... But I think the noble name speaks very plainly for itself and needs no written evidence of its etymology. Oy-el-agua: Hear the waters! Oye-agua: Oregon: Or-e-gon!"

To the French, the Indians, and the Spanish, it has been attributed, and even the Irish have laid claim to it. There are those who associate it with the storms of the coast, by giving its derivation from the French word, Ouragan, meaning "hurricane", while others find its derivation in the word "Origanum", a wild plant said to have been found in abundance along the Pacific coast. The Indians named things from their leading characteristic and G. W. Steele, first president of the Oregon Geographic Board, traces the name to the Shoshone word meaning, "a place of plenty". Still others derive it from the Spanish "Oregono" or sage artemesia found

east of the mountains, but the Spanish knew nothing of the country beyond the mountains, and, we are told they named only what they heard or saw. ³ "The Popular History of Oregon" says, "Oregon is a form of the name "Aragon" which in Spain is pronounced very much like "Oregon" with the accent strongly on the last syllable, as most Americans pronounced it fifty years ago." J. B. Horner, in his "Oregon: its People and Literature", ⁴ suggests that the Spanish missionaries might have used the name as a mark of courtesy to Ferdinand of Aragon, Prince Consort of Isabella. Chittenden in his "Fur Traders of the Far West", says, "There is much reason to think that it came from the Spanish since early writers refer to it as the 'Oregon of the Spaniards'."

One of the first attempts at explanation appeared in the Saint Louis Missouri Republican in 1825, signed by a "Subscriber". This explained it as coming from the Spanish word "Oregano", a plant of the wild majoram species which was said to grow on the banks of the river, but the inevitable Irishman, "Pat", appears and takes the "Subscriber" to task for being "after robbing the whole country of the best part of its name," which he says was in full, "Teague O'Regan, a family name in the island of Erin".

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 3. Horner, J. B. Oregon; its People and Literature.
 pp. 16-17.

4. Ibid.

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When John Ray, while Secretary of the Spanish Legation at Madrid, was asked by Joaquin Miller for an explanation of the word, he replied, "Let the waters dashing down out of heaven speak for themselves. I think it no stretch of the imagination to submit that they are forever crying out to the clouds like prophets in the wilderness, 'Oye-agua, Oye-agua! Oregon!'"

The subject may be dismissed in the words of Chittenden, who says, "If it was really the creation of the historian or the geographer who coined it from airy nothing and gave it a local habitation and a name on this most interesting river, then all praise to the genius who created it."

Hall J. Kelley receives the credit for being the first to transfer the name to the country south of the river, which is now known by that name and which extends between 42° and 46° 18' North Latitude and 116° 33' and 124° 32' West Longitude. From north to south it is 275 miles, and from east to west 375 miles, covering a total area of 96,699 square miles. This is more territory than the combined area of New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Vermont, New Hampshire, Delaware, Maryland, with several other states the size of Rhode Island. Massachusetts could easily be placed in the Willamette Valley, and anyone of twenty-four

counties is larger than Rhode Island.

The Cascade Mountains, with their forests and their snow-capped peaks extend from north to south, dividing the state into two unequal parts, Eastern Oregon comprising about two-thirds of the state, and Western Oregon including about one-third. Near the coast and parallel to the Cascades, extends the lower range called the Coast Range, leaving a valley of about sixty miles in width between the ranges, through which flows the Willamette River, northward, into the Columbia. Across the southern part of this valley, from east to west, extends the Siskiyou Ridge of the Klamath Mountains, thus dividing Western Oregon into two parts.

In the northeastern part of the state are the Blue and Wallowa Mountains, the central and southern part of Eastern Oregon forming a great inland plateau, usually referred to as "The Inland Empire", and broken in the southeastern part by Stein's Mountains.

This state is only a part of the original territory known in history as the Oregon Territory, including the present states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, with parts of Montana and Wyoming, which entered so largely into the literature of our country during the first

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5. Figures taken from Horner: Oregon; its People and Literature.

half of the nineteenth century, and over the possession of which, the two great English speaking countries, Great Britain and the United States, almost came to war. How that war was averted, and the region became a part of the Union, peopled with citizens of our own country, is told in the literature which will be discussed in the following pages.

Chapter One: The Indians

"Take the wings of the morning
And lose thyself in the continuous woods
Where rolls the Oregon, and hears no sound
Save his own dashings - yet - the dead are there:
And millions in those solitudes, since first
The flight of years began, have laid them down
In their last sleep - the dead reign there alone."

(William Cullen Bryant.)

Thus - a country of the dead - has Bryant pictured the land through which flows the Oregon of primitive times; the Columbia of our own day. A land of continuous woods it was and is, but never, to our knowledge, a land of the dead.

Through some attempt has been made to establish a theory of the occupancy of the country by a pre-historic race, nothing has been sufficiently brought to light to warrant any discussion here. We know when first reached by our own explorers and fur traders, that it was inhabited by a race of people whom Columbus called Indians, and who came to be known among civilized people

as savages, or, in their own jargon, "Siwashes".

Vancouver mentions them in the journal of his expedition along the coast in 1792; in the same year Captain Gray met them on the Columbia; the New England merchants sent their ships to trade with them, Lewis and Clark found them when they made their famous expedition, and the missionaries crossed the vast prairies to teach them. With the history of the country, they are inseparably bound; hence, the Indian of the Pacific Coast has become a prominent figure, not only in the literature of the state itself, but in that of the nation as well.

Oregon was inhabited by many different tribes. On the south bank of the Columbia beginning at the mouth and extending up the river were the Clatsops, Kathlamets, and Wascos, all classed as Chinook stock. This family was originally the largest and most important one in the Oregon Territory. In the upper Columbia valley were the Nez Perces, Cayuses, and Flatheads. These tribes were not confined entirely to the territory discussed here, but they took the most active part in its history. Along the Pacific Coast in the vicinity of Tillamook Bay and extending northward were the Tillamooks, sometimes classed as belonging to the Chinook family. South of these were the "Umpquas,

Coquilles, Coos, and Rogue Rivers. In the lower Willamette Valley lived the Multnomahs; in the region around the Falls were the Clackamas, and the upper part of the valley was inhabited by the Calapooiahs. In the southern part of the territory were found the Modocs and Klamath Lake, which are classified by Gatschet under the family name of Klamaths.

As among all primitive people, there grew up in these several tribes numerous myths, attempts to account for the existence of those things around them, which to the primitive mind were past understanding. Repeated night after night around the campfire, handed down by one generation to another, they have at last become a permanent part of our literature. To us, they show the ideas and thoughts which existed in the mind of these people during the stage of development when imagination predominated. "These are on an exact level with the nursery tales in which the children still delight, and show a mental frame of about the same stage as that of the early Germanic and Scandinavian tribes, or of the Greeks before the times of Homer and AEsop. Many of the tales also, told in the original Indian, with the picturesqueness of a long developed style, would compare well with the fancies of the Arabian Nights."

In speaking of the amount of this material, one is almost tempted to use the word "unlimited" so great is the number of these myths which have been handed down to us. Each tribe had its own, all bearing, in some respect, a great resemblance in purpose and subject matter, yet each tribe having its own distinctive marks.

The general idea upon which they are based is, that the present race of birds, beasts, reptiles, and fish was once a race of giants and monsters in the form of men, who inhabited the globe before the present race.² This state of affairs proving unsatisfactory, they were changed to their present condition, but still retained the language of men.

These myths deal chiefly with the First People with the coyote as the central figure. He is usually represented as a trickster or a dupe, but also as a great transformer. He creates waterfalls, destroys monsters, and changes them into useful objects, teaches the arts and sciences, punishes disobedience and is the prime mover in the theft of fire which marks the beginning of human advancement.

Next in importance after the coyote come the birds-- the eagle, the falcon, the crow, the raven, and some-

times the vulture and buzzard. One special bird predominates in the stories of a tribe; in the Chinooks, it is the blue-jay; in the Coos, the crow; in the Klamaths, the raven.

The transformation frequently took place upon the destruction of the world by fire and in a few cases by flood. Sometimes it is the work of the coyote or another; sometimes there is a contest of some sort in which both participants are transformed. Sometimes, as in the Coos tale of the "Crow", it is a battle of wits. In the Modoc tale, the stealing of the sun brings about the change. Some of these versions are simple and literal, some are dramatic and grim.

The creation of man was looked upon as a mechanical creation. Sometimes it was from earth or grass or a transformation of sticks or feathers. In the Klamath Lake myth, Kumush, their greatest deity, creates the Indian from a service-berry bush. He made the white man also, but placed him in the shade, which accounts for the difference between the white and red man in complexion. The Modoc myth of creation is, perhaps, one of the most pleasing. In brief, it is as follows:

Kumush, whose life was the sun's golden disk, had a daughter who represents the clouded or mottled evening sky. She leads him to the underworld where they meet a vast crowd of spirits. Here they dance around

fire for five nights in a large circle. During the intervening days they are changed to dry bones.

Kumush takes some of these in a bag, and when reaching the horizon at daybreak throws the bones around the world in pairs and creates the tribes from them, the Modoc tribe being the last created. Then he travels in the path of the sun till he reaches the Zenith, where he builds his lodge and lives with his daughter. ³

In the Pit Rivers' myth, the coyote and fox made man, and in the Nez Perces' story, the coyote created man out of the Kamiah monster with the help of the fox.

Fire was of particular interest to the Indians. They knew how to obtain it - by rubbing sticks together or by striking flint - but how it got into the wood or flint they did not know; therefore, myths grew up in which they tried to account for this. The most beautiful fire myth is the one connected with the famous Towanowas bridge or "Bridge of the Gods", as it has been termed by an Oregon writer. The myth might almost be called one of creation as well as of fire since it attempts to account for the peculiar formation of the river and for the snowpeaks of Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams.

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 3. Gatchet, Albert S. The Klamath Indians of Southwest Oregon. (In North American Ethnology. Vol. II. Pt. I.)

Almost every locality is associated in some way with the Indian myths. "The very center of Indian lore, the Parnassus, the Delphi, the Dodona of the lower Columbia River Indians, is the stretch of mingled bluff, plain, lake, sand-dune, and mountain from the south shore of Columbia's mouth to the sacred Nekahni Mountain. It is a wondrously picturesque region. From it came Tallapus, the Hermes Trismegistus of the Oregon Indians. Its forests were haunted by the Skookums and Choatcos. From the volcanic pinnacles of Swallallochast, now known as Saddle Mountain, the thunder bird went forth on its daily quest of a whale, while at the foot of the mountain, Quootshoi and Toulux produced the first men from an egg of the same great bird. In short, that region was as rich in legend, as it was, and still is, in scenic beauty."

Almost as well known in story as this region, is the Columbia River with its cascades and projecting rocks and bluffs. The Cascade Mountains with their forests, lakes, and caves, while not appearing in so many, furnish us, nevertheless, with some of the most beautiful ones.

Of a later date than the myths are the three traditions of the coming of the white man. Here we have a

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4. Lyman, William Denison. The Columbia River.
p. 34.

combination of legend and history, for most authorities agree that the Indian had, at least, some actual historical basis for his story. The first was connected with Necahnie Mountain where, so the story says, strange men from a ship landed, carrying a chest which they buried on the side of the mountain, and then sailed away. In the second story a vessel having a large quantity of beeswax was cast away on a spit of land north of Nehalen River. The crew came on shore, built a house, and lived peaceably for some time. Later, a quarrel arose between them and the natives, and a fight took place in which all the seamen were killed. It is claimed by some that pieces of the beeswax have been found marked with the letters, I.

H. N. Some people think it was a Spanish supply ship bound for the California missions, while others think it was a Japanese junk driven out of its way. In the third story, the crew from a wrecked ship landed on the coast, and all but two were killed by the natives. These were made slaves, but finally obtained their freedom and travelled toward the rising sun, reaching the Dalles. Here one married, the other returning to Multnomah Island where he married. It was probably the son of the latter who was the Soto of Franchère's

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5. Gatchet. Klamath Indians of Southwestern Oregon.
(In North American Ethnology. Vol. II. Pt. I.)

Narrative.

Numerous collections of these myths and traditions have been made, but the most valuable are the "Kathlamet and Chinook Texts" made by Dr. Franz Boas and "Klamath Texts" made by Albert S. Gatschet, who received their stories from Indians of reliability. They are written in the Indian language with interlinear translations and accompanied by notes and explanations. They have been published in the American Journal of Ethnology, but besides these lengthy publications, many valuable short articles have been contributed to the Journal of American Folk Lore by these men. In the Publications of the American Ethnology Society of 1909, Edward Sapir has contributed "Wishram Texts", while L. J. Frachtenberg in Columbia University Contributions to Anthropology, 1913 and 1914, has given us "Coos Texts" and "Lower Umpqua Texts".

So much has been written on the customs, manners, and, in fact, everything connected with the Indian that it would be impossible to give even a brief survey of it. In all the narratives of the fur traders, exploring parties, adventurers, and missionaries, he has been the central theme. Numerous are the descriptions of his modes of living, his home, amusements, and customs.

With the coming of the fur trader, there developed

the necessity of a means of communication between the Indians and whites, and there grew up that which Theodore Winthrop has described as "a lingo, an incoherent coagulation of words, as much like a settled, logical language as a legion of centrifugal, marauding Bashi Bazouks, every man a Jack-of-all-trades, a beggar, and a blackguard is like an accurate, unanimous, disciplined battalion. It is a jargon of English, French, Spanish, Chinook, Kallapooya, Maldi, and other tongues, civilized and uncivilized. It is an attempt on a small scale to nullify Babel by combining a confusion of tongues into a confounding of tongues - a witch's cauldron in which the vocable that bobs up may be some old familiar Saxon verb having suffered Procrustean docking or elongation, and now doing substantive duty; or some strange monster, evidently nurtured within the range of tomanawks and calumets. There is some danger that the beauties of this dialect will be lost to literature. The Chinook language still expects its poet."

The development and growth of the Chinook jargon, as told by George Gibbs, is as follows: Nootka Sound being the general rendezvous of the trading vessels

during the fifteen years preceeding 1800, various words useful in barter were picked up and transplanted, with English additions, to the shores of Oregon. With the arrival of Lewis and Clark, the new language attained some form, but it was with the Astor expedition that it received its greatest impulse. Many more English words were added and French was brought in. Since the seat of government was at Astoria, many Chinook and Chehalis words entered in. The words added were those easily uttered by all, except that objects which were new to the natives found names in French and English with certain modifications. Under the Hudson's Bay and Northwest Companies more words were added, and the language, if language it may be called, became more distinct and settled in meaning. This became the means of communication between the Indians speaking different dialects, between the white men and the Indians, and even between the Americans and the French Canadians. Gibbs places the number of words in the vocabulary of the jargon at about five hundred⁷, although authorities differ.

In a bibliography of the Chinook language issued in 1893 by J. C. Pilling, two hundred and seventy

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 7. Pilling, J. C. Introduction to Bibliography of Chinook Language. (In Bureau of Ethnology. Vol. 20.

titular entries are made of which two hundred and twenty-nine are printed books and articles and forty-one manuscripts. Of these, by far the greater number of entries concern the jargon, comparatively little having been done with the Chinook language proper.

Various grammars of the Chinook language proper have been published, but the only one worthy any particular notice is that of Dr. Franz Boas.

Similar to the work of Dr. Boas is the vocabulary and grammar of the Klamaths by Alfred S. Gatschet. Both these works are conceded to be valuable, but that of Mr. Gatschet seems to have received the most favorable criticism for its accuracy and its minuteness of detail.

Thus far, it is the favorable side of the Indian that has been dealt with--his myths and his language; but there is a darker side to his nature which has, at long intervals, exhibited itself and cast a shadow on the pages of literature. The first outburst occurred in 1811 when the "ill-fated Tonquin", as it has come to be called, was destroyed by them, with only one surviving member of the crew. Leaving the members of the Astor expedition on the Columbia, the ship with some of the officers of the company, sailed northward for trading purposes. Under pretence of friendly

trading, the Indians crowded the deck, but at a given signal fell upon the crew and massacred them. The one survivor, realizing his inability to escape, blew up the ship and most of the Indians went down with the ship. The story has been told and retold. It was given for the first time in the Narrative of Franchere, a member of the expedition who remained at the fort. This was followed by Ross's "Adventures on the Columbia", when the story was again repeated. These two accounts were followed by that of Alexander Cox. Thus has the story been told three times by members of that one expedition. Irving's account is but a repetition of the previous ones, although the horrors are, perhaps, more vividly portrayed.

For thirty-six years peace and friendship existed between the white man and the Oregon Indian, when dark deeds are again recorded. In 1847, the Cayuses fell upon Dr. Whitman's mission, brutally killing Dr. and Mrs. Whitman and twelve other members of the mission. Many accounts of this massacre are given, but some of the best are found in Gray's "History of Oregon", in the two pamphlets issued by Congress, in Craighead's "Life of Whitman" and in Dr. Nixon's "How Marcus Whitman Saved Oregon".

Fifty years afterwards, the anniversary of this massacre was observed when a poem, written for the

occasion by one who wished his name concealed, was read, paying this tribute to Dr. Whitman:

"But one there was who came in peace and zeal,
 To lift the cross and guide the conquering wheel:
 His sword the flaming truth, his sign the cross,
 He counted all but faith an empty dross.
 Fair was that noble form, and fairer e'en his bride-
 Whitman who dared for Oregon to ride,
 Who saved an empire and a martyr died."⁸

This deed was the beginning of that restlessness which existed among the Indians and finally culminated in the Indian War of 1856 and 1857. At this time Lieutenant Philip Sheridan, afterwards General Philip Sheridan of Civil War fame, was stationed in Oregon with a United States Surveying expedition. It was in Oregon, then, that he received his initiation into warfare, and he fought his first battle in the Indian War. The story of the war, and the removal afterwards, of the Indians to the reservations, he has told in a plain direct but interesting manner in the first volume of the "Memoirs". It is with this war that the new type, the soldier, makes his first appearance in Oregon.

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 8. Mowry. Marcus Whitman. p.234.

From the year 1853 to 1859, there were frequent uprisings among the Indians. When gold was discovered in California, great numbers of Oregonians flocked to the mines overland through the Rogue River territory. The Indians fell upon them, in many cases unprovoked, and in other cases in retaliation ~~at~~ for deeds committed by the miners. When gold, later was discovered in southern Oregon, the settlers were kept in constant fear of Indian attacks. The trouble was not satisfactorially settled till 1859. At the out-break of the trouble, General Joseph Lane took command and in his "Autobiography" we get a very picturesque account of his treaty with these Indians and the part he played in the war. Benjamin Franklin Howell has given us the most complete account of these troubles in his "Oregon Indian Wars" which is a compilation of original documents and letters pertaining to the wars of 1855-56. J. M. Sutton has dealt with the subject in "Scraps of Southern Oregon History".

Two more Indian wars are recorded before the Indians are settled upon their reservations. In 1872-3, an attempt was made to remove the Modocs to the Klamath Reservation. They resisted and fled to the hills. The soldiers fired on the unprotected women and children and the Indians retaliated. During

a period of truce, they killed General Canby and Dr. Thomas. Hostilities were renewed against the Indians, who finally surrendered. The leaders, Black Jim and Boston Charley were hung.

Many long and graphic accounts of the war were published in the newspapers and magazines, both sides having their sympathizers. The New York Herald kept a special correspondent at the seat of the war, whose accounts with maps were published in the Herald. In the Overland Monthly of that year were "Scraps of Modoc History" by W. M. Turner. A. B. Meacham, at that time Indian Agent, gives the story in his "Wigwam or Warpath or a Royal Chief in Chains", which seems, however, to be an attempt to vindicate his own conduct in the matter.

The last war, in 1877, was with the tribe which from the time of Lewis and Clark had been friends with the white, and unlike any of the other wars, exhibited no treachery or atrocities by the Indians.

Treaties had been made with Chief Lawyer of the Nez Perces which Chief Joseph and his band of followers did not recognize. They ceded their lands in the Wallowa valley to the government. An attempt to

compel Chief Joseph to comply with the treaty resulted in war, and finally in the flight of Joseph, followed by General Howard, for one thousand three hundred twenty-one miles, but he won by his military skill the respect and admiration of his opponents.

Of this war, we have the accounts of both leaders. General O. O. Howard has devoted a volume to the detailed account of it entitled "Nez Perce Joseph". In this he deals not only with the immediate war, but with the history of the tribe and its occupancy of the country in question. It seems somewhat in the nature of a personal vindication.

On the other hand, Chief Joseph has given the story in a simple, direct way within a few pages in "An Indian's View of Indians' Affairs", published in the ¹⁰ North American Review. While his arguments would receive but scant consideration from historians, yet they give us the Indians' viewpoint so clearly that one feels they have much to justify their conduct. To Joseph, "the beautiful valley of winding waters" had always belonged to the Nez Percés and was theirs by right. Of it he says, "I love that land more than all the rest of the world". Furthermore, it was the land

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10. North American Review. Vol. 128. pp. 412-33.

of his father's grave and "a man who would not love his father's grave is worse than a wild animal". Call it sentiment if you please, or by any other name; after a study of the Oregon Indian question, one cannot help but feel there is much truth in his last paragraph:

"Whenever the white man treats the Indian as they treat each other, then we will have no more wars. We shall be alike - brothers of one father and one mother, with one sky above us and one country around us, and one government for all. Then the Great Spirit Chief who rules above will smile upon this land and send rain to wash out the bloody spots made by brothers' hands from the face of the earth. For this time the Indian race are waiting and praying. I hope that no more groans of wounded men and women will ever go to the ear of the Great Spirit above, and that all people will be one people."

With the close of the wars, the Indian ceases to be an actor in the affairs of the state and therefore ceases to be of interest to the nation at large. He is remembered now only by the beautiful names he has left behind him - Umatilla, "the wind blown sand"; Multnomah, "down the waters"; Chemeketa, "here we rest" or "place of rest"; Wallowa, "winding water". Numerous others might be added to the list of place-

names which stand out so prominently upon the map of the state.

As we have traced the Indian's part in literature through his myths, his language, and his wars, and he passes to make way for the white man, so in the next chapter will we follow the white man in his settlement of the Oregon country.

Chapter Two: Contributing Element - History

Part I. 1803 - 1843

Period of Exploration and Adventure

But little need be said of Oregon prior to the year 1803, since, to the country at large, it was practically unknown. From the reports of Captain James Cook's expeditions in the Pacific, 1775-80, it had been learned that the Northwest Coast was rich in sea otters, and that their skins brought a good price in the markets of China. English and Portuguese ships were immediately sent to trade with the Indians and by 1787 Boston trading ships were also following the coast. In 1792 Vancouver explored the Northwest Coast, where he found Captain Gray of Boston, from whom he learned of the existence of "The River of the West". All trading was carried on along the coast; no exploring parties were sent to the interior nor were any settlements made. By the close of the year 1793, the Northwest Fur Trading Company had pushed northwest in the territory of the Hudson's Bay Company and through the explorations of Alexander Mackenzie had reached the Arctic Ocean by means of the river which bears his name, and the Pacific Ocean through the Peace River Pass in

latitude 50° 20". For the next fifteen years, they confined their activities to the east of the mountains. Thus it was that when what afterwards became known as the Oregon Territory, first began to receive public attention through the Louisiana Purchase, it was, so far as the interior was concerned, an unknown country.

To President Jefferson belongs the credit of having first conceived the idea of exploring the vast western country and reaching the Pacific Ocean. Even before the actual transfer of the Louisiana Purchase to us, he had planned the Lewis and Clark expedition, and in a confidential message to Congress, had asked for an appropriation "to explore the Missouri River and such principal streams of it as, by its course of communication with the waters of the Pacific Ocean, whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado, or any other river, may offer the most direct and practical communication across the continent, for the purposes of commerce." Congress voted the financial assistance and secret preparations were soon under way for the expedition. Lewis says in his letter to Clark, "You must know in the first place that very sanguine expectations are at this time formed by our government that the whole of that immense country watered by the Mississippi and its tributary streams, Missouri inclu-

sive, will be the property of the United States in less than twelve months from this date; but here let me impress you with the necessity of keeping the matter a perfect secret."¹ Concerning the purpose of the expedition, he says in the same letter, "The object of the act as understood by its framers was to give the sanction of the government to exploring the interior of North America, or that part of it bordering on the Missouri and Columbia Rivers.....and if practicable, pass over the waters of the Columbia or Oregon River and by descending it, reach the Western Ocean; the mouth of this river lies about one hundred and forty miles south of Nootka Sound".²

President Jefferson, in his letter of instructions to Lewis says, "The object of your mission is single, the direct water communication from sea to sea formed by the bed of the Missouri and perhaps the Oregon."

From Ft. Mandan, where the expedition wintered in 1805, Lewis dispatched letters to his mother and to President Jefferson. In his mother's he mentioned the report of the Indians that a half day's march from the source of the Missouri, a large river runs from south to north along the base of the Rocky Mountains:

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1. Thwaites, R. G. (ed.) Original Journal Lewis and Clark. Vol. VII. p. 228.
 2. Ibid. pp. 226-228.

"We believe this river to be the principal South Fork of the Columbia River, and if so, we shall probably find but little difficulty in passing to the ocean." In his letter to the President, he says, "Should this river (Columbia) not prove navigable where we first meet with it, our present intention is, to continue our march by land down the river until it becomes so,³ or to the Pacific Ocean".

During the winter spent on the Columbia, nothing is heard from them, but on their arrival at St. Louis, 1806, the letters again continue. Lewis reports to the President thus: "In obedience to your orders, we have penetrated the continent of North America to the Pacific Ocean and sufficiently explored the interior of the country to affirm that we have discovered the most practicable communication which does exist across the continent by means of the navigable branches of the Missouri and Columbia River."⁴ Then follows a long description of the Columbia River and its practicability as a shipping point for the fur trade.

Captain Clark, in writing to his brother, George Rogers Clark, from St. Louis says: "I consider this tract across the continent of immense advantage to the

.....
3. Thwaites, R. G. (ed.) Original Journals Lewis and Clark. Vol. VII. pp. 319-20.

4. Ibid. p. 334.

fur trade, as all the furs collected in nine-tenths of the most valuable fur country in America may be conveyed ⁵ ed to the mouth of the Columbia and shipped thence to the East Indies by the first of August in each year".

The first newspaper notices of the return of the expedition appear to have been based on letters from members of it, or from residents of St. Louis. The letter from Captain Clark was published in a Frankfort, Kentucky, paper, and copied from it by the eastern papers - Philadelphia Aurora, Relf's Philadelphia Gazette, and Daily Advertiser and Poulson's American Daily Advertiser, Philadelphia. Flaring headlines such as "More Wonders", "Rocky Mountain Sheep Beats Horned Frog all Hollow" ⁶ usually appeared above the letter. Brief quotations from some of these newspaper letters show the general trend of them. From the Palladium of Frankfort, Kentucky: "They erected a fort on the seashore and engraved their names. They have a number of curiosities among which is a wild sheep; its head and horns weigh about 80 to 90 pounds." From the Philadelphia Register: "One of the hands, an intelligent man, tells me that Indians are as numerous on the Columbia as the whites are in any part of the

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5. Thwaites, R. G. (ed.) Original Journals Lewis and Clark. Vol. VII. p. 342.

6. Ibid. p. 348.

United States". From the New York Gazette: "The river and its tributary streams abound in salmon. The timber is pine, maple, ash, poplar, and oak." These newspaper letters were copied from one paper to another until the news was circulated throughout the entire East.

The President announced the return of the expedition to Congress in his message of December 2, 1806, in these words, "The expedition of Lewis and Clark for exploring the River Missouri and the best communication from that to the Pacific Ocean, has had all the success which could have been expected. They have traced the Missouri nearly to its source, descended the Columbia to the Pacific Ocean, ascertained with accuracy the geography of that interesting communication across our continent, learned the character of the country, of the mountains, of its commerce, and its inhabitants; and it is but justice to say that Messrs Lewis and Clark, and their brave companions, have by this arduous service deserved well of their country."

President Jefferson had recommended that all who were able should keep records of all they did and all they saw. As a result, seven journals were kept, and everything, both important and unimportant, was recorded.

The first journal to be published was that of Patrick Gass in 1807. It is not, however, printed in the language of Gass, but was rewritten by a school teacher, whose assistance he sought; therefore, we miss the spice of the Irishman's wit and we get but the monotonous rehearsal of events from day to day. Gass had no knowledge of science, so that his observations on the country and its plants and animals are merely commonplace.

Not for eight years after the return of the expedition and after the death of Captain Lewis were the journals of the two leaders given to the public in an organized form. In 1814, the version of Nicholas Biddle of Philadelphia, with the name of Paul Allen on the title page as editor appeared. This edition was republished in London, Dublin, Germany, Holland, New York, and Paris. In all, there have been something like forty reprints made.

The original journals of Lewis and Clark were not given to the public until 1905, when they were edited by R. G. Thwaites. "Though by profession soldiers, these officers were also accurate observers, and not unworthy pioneers in the field of scientific investigation, which, at a later date, was so thoroughly occupied by men of more specific qualifications. Their

reports upon the geology, fauna, flora, and the native tribes were in general sound and discriminating and justly entitle them to high standing in the history of scientific research in the Western country." ⁷

In a few places in the journals written after leaving Ft. Mandan mention is made of a woman in the party, but they are only unimportant references. Later writers, who profess to be speaking about that concerning which they have made investigations, have given her an important place in the expedition - that of guide from the land of the Mandans to the Ocean. Taken captive by the Mandans when a child, she, a Shoshone herself, was familiar with the country through which the expedition must pass. Wife of Charboneau, the French trapper, she took his place as guide. So the story of "Bird Woman Sacajawea" goes, as told by James Willard Schultz, who claims to have received the story from the Indians who knew her. It has been repeated by Katherine Chandler in her "Bird-woman of Lewis and Clark Expedition", and Sacajawea is the subject of Edna Dean Proctor's story in verse, which closes with the following prophecy:

.....
 7. Chittenden, H. M. History of American Fur Trade in the Far West. Vol. II. p. 634.

"Some day in the lordly upland where the snow-fed
streams divide -

A foam for the far Atlantic, afoam for Pacific's
tide -

There by the valiant Captains whose glory will
never dim

While the sun goes down on the Asian sea and
the stars in ether swim,

She will stand in bronze as richly brown as the
hue of her girlish cheek,

With broidered robe and braided hair and lips
just carved to speak;

And the mountain winds will murmur as they linger
along the crest

'Sho-sho'-ne Sa-ca-ja-we-a, who led the way to
the West!'

Through sombre pass, by roaring peak, till the
Asian wind blew free

And lo! the roar of the Oregon and the splendor
of the sea!"

So far as commercial exploitation or settlement
was concerned, the Lewis and Clark Expedition was
without results. That was left for the fur traders,
adventurers, and missionaries, who were interested in
the country. Such knowledge as they ^{gained, they} passed on to the
emigrants.

From 1807 up to the coming of the missionaries, the fur trader and trapper were the most prominent figures. From east to west, from north to south, no part of the territory, however seemingly inaccessible, but was traversed by them in search of the beaver.

In 1811, John Jacob Astor established a trading post at the mouth of the Columbia River. Two expeditions were sent out, one by land and the other by sea. The story of the trading post has been told by three different members of the expedition. The "Narrative of Gabriel Franchere" was published in French in 1819 and translated into English by J. V. Huntington in 1854. It is the story of the expedition from the time it leaves New York until the fort is passed over to the British. He dwells but little on the hardships endured. It is of the "cascades leaping from rock to rock," "the beautiful prairie", "the snow-capped peaks", the beauty of the trees and skies that he wrote. On the other hand Ross, in his "Adventures on the Columbia" dwells on the hardships of the voyage, the tyranny of the captain, the neglect of Mr. Astor, and the treachery of the Indians, the "lone, gloomy country", "the rugged, barren, rocky surface", "the dense forests which darken the banks of the river". In his account of the overland expedition, he gives the same dark picture of mismanagement, privations, and quarrels.

"Adventures on the Columbia River," by Ross Cox, is an account of six years on the Columbia, which he ascended nine times, descending eight. It is interesting and fairly well written, but shows some braggadocio.

As a literary production, the most valuable account is Irving's "Astoria", termed by many "a real classic". For his information, he is indebted to the "Narrative of Franchere" and the private papers and the documents of Mr. Astor. The book has received much criticism by recent writers because of alleged inaccuracies in historical points, but "in spite of all difficulties it is possible to identify most of the localities very closely, and many of them exactly from Irving's description. Pen pictures which would possibly pass for the effusions of a versatile pen are found to be true to the localities even at the present day. There are, indeed, some gaps and omissions, but these are nothing in comparison with the remarkable feat of preserving so well the line of march in which not a single scientific observation as to course or direction was taken, and in a country of which no map had ever been made."

The charge has also been brought against Irving that he borrowed without proper acknowledgement. Of this, the authority quoted above says, "If he did borrow, he so completely worked the matter over in his own incomparable style, that it was to all intents and purposes new matter.....in essential respects of accuracy and comprehensive treatment, Irving's work stands immeasurably above all others upon the subject."

In 1814, the Pacific Fur Company surrendered Astoria to the Northwestern Fur Company and in 1821, the "Northwesters" as they came to be called, united with the Hudson's Bay Company which became the controlling power in the history of Oregon until its settlement by the Americans. The story of the race for possession of the Oregon territory by the three fur companies and the final victory of the Hudson's Bay Company is told in detail in the three volumes of H. M. Chittenden's "History of the American Fur Trade in the Far West", and in a briefer manner in A. C. Laut's "Story of the Trapper".

But it is not with the fur companies that we get the most picturesque account of the trapper's life. Besides those who were bound to the companies, there was a class of trappers who came and went where and

when they pleased, provided their own horses, arms, and equipment, trapped and traded on their own account and disposed of their peltries to the highest bidder.

Sometimes they traveled with the companies for protection; sometimes a number of them went together each capturing and selling his own peltries; sometimes he was a kind of partisan with his own workers; but always he led a life of danger and privation, attacked by Indians and compelled to travel over rocky precipices. Yet he held tenaciously to the wild, free life, adopting the dress, habits, and manners of the Indian and discarding all pertaining to a civilized life. So numerous were these trappers that, "on every Indian trail have been seen the sure-footed mule and Indian mustang, reeling under burdens of three hundred pounds, sometimes in troops of scores, driven by a squadron of weather-beaten mountaineers, with their rifles before them and their long knives at their belt; now ascending the mountain-chain; now plunging to the bottom of the deep, dark ravine; now diving into the solitudes of the primeval forest, untrodden but by the feet of wild beasts and savages as wild as they, and now emerging upon the extended prairies, calling, wherever the rising smoke indicates the presence of an Indian, and bartering the wampum, the gaudy ribbon, the scarlet cloth, and the Indian blankets for the

precious beaver, otter, and marten, until their supply of goods is exhausted and their animals loaded with the fruits of their toil." ¹⁰

So great is the amount of literature written on the life of the trapper that it would be impossible to give any idea of the extent of it. Chittenden's "History of the American Fur Trade", Russell's "Journal of a Trapper", Suffling's "Fur Traders of the West", McConnel's "Western Characters or Types of Border Life in Western States", Sturgis's "The Northwest Fur Trade and the Indians of the Oregon Country", Coyner's "Lost Trappers", Elliot's "Peter Skene Ogden, Fur Trader", and many others deal with this subject.

The fur trader and the trapper were not, however, the only ones who heard the "call of the wild". The tales of the western countries drifted east and fell upon the ears of adventurous young men who were charmed with the romance of western life. Such a one was Captain Bonneville, a graduate of West Point. Having gained a romantic notion of the Rocky Mountain country, he secured permission of the War Department to make a journey of observation there and make reports upon the territory and natives. To pay expenses, he equipped an expedition and out-fitted a trapping party and set

out with one hundred and ten men and a train of twenty wagons drawn by oxen. For two years he wandered to and fro, pushing farther westward than the other adventurers, reaching the Columbia below the Snake and projecting a fort upon the Willamette, but ending in failure. Through the pen of Washington Irving, "The Adventures of Captain Bonneville" have become famous. This literary achievement typifies more than any other work the romantic ideas associated with the western country. "'Captain Bonneville', as the work is now called, is a true and living picture of those early scenes, and taken with 'Astoria' will ever remain our highest authority upon the events to which they relate." ¹¹

Of a very different type was Hall J. Kelley, "the visionary schoolmaster", who seems to have been the first to propose holding Oregon by American occupation. Beginning his agitation as early as 1815 by issuing various pamphlets on the advantages of Oregon, he finally succeeded in founding "The American Society for Encouraging Settlement in Oregon". In 1832, he decided to make the trip to Oregon and arrived there after many delays and hardships in company with some traders from California. Disappointed in his reception there, after taking statistics of the country and

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 11. Chittenden, H. M. History of the American Fur Trade. Vol. II. p. 432.

mapping and locating places of commercial interest, he returned to the United States where he later published "A Sketch of Oregon". Much discussion has arisen concerning him and his part in the settlement of Oregon, but H. P. Deady, at one time a prominent judge of Oregon, says of him: "To him more than any one person, in my judgment, may be attributed, justly attributed, the subsequent occupation of the country by emigrants from the United States".

The third adventurer who has received much mention in literary fields was Nathaniel J. Wyeth. Conceiving an idea of establishing a base upon the Columbia River tide-water to receive goods from Boston and to develop the opportunities for salmon fishing, coast trade, provision trade, trade with natives of the interior, the supply of goods to the Rocky Mountain Rendezvous, he made two expeditions, only to abandon the plan in the end. "A Short History of a Long Journey", by J. B. Wyeth, tells the story of part of the first expedition and "The Correspondence and Journals of Captain Nathaniel J. Wyeth, 1831-6" give the complete record of the two expeditions.

The natural beauty and grandeur, the adventurous life and the scenic and geographical wonders of the highway were powerful attractions to draw, not only the wanderers and lovers of adventure, but scientific men

as well, up the Missouri into the country of the trappers. J. K. Townsend, the naturalist, went out with the Wyeth expedition, making observations and notes on the plant and animal life which were published in 1840 under the title of "Sporting Excursions in the Rocky Mountains including a Journey to the Columbia"; Bradbury traveled with Hunt's overland party and published his investigations in "Travels in North America"; Captain Charles Wilkes made an exploring expedition through California and Oregon in the years 1838-42, publishing his "Narrative of the United States Exploring Expedition" in 1845.

The last, but not unimportant movement in this period was that put forth under the guise, at least, of the religious betterment of the Indians of Oregon. For some time interest in their behalf had been slowly awakening among the missionaries, but the Church had done nothing. In the fall of 1831, four Flathead Indians, so the story is told, came to St. Louis asking for instruction in the white man's way of worshipping the Great Spirit. About a year later, an account of their visit in the form of a letter, was published in the Christian Advocate. This stirring appeal in behalf of the Indians was taken up by all the missionary papers. The Methodists were the first in the field, sending Jason and Daniel Lee out in 1834.

The next year, the American Board of Missions, composed of Presbyterian and Congregationalists, sent out Rev. Samuel Parker and Dr. Marcus Whitman. In 1836, came the two Catholic priests, Rev. Frances Norbet Blanchet and Rev. Modeste Demers. Later Rev. Pierre J. De Sonet came. In the years following large re-inforcements were sent out by both the Methodists and the Board of Missions.

A wave of religious zeal passed over the country. The eastern papers were filled with the letters and appeals for helpers from the missionaries. Rev. Parker, after a year's tour in Oregon, returned to New York and in 1838 published his "Journal of an Exploring Tour Beyond the Rocky Mountains". Parker was a geologist and made many interesting notes on topography, soil, rocks, etc. He was the first to publish a suggestion of a Pacific railroad through the South Pass. He speaks of the day "when trips will be made across the continent, as they have been made to the Niagara Falls, to see nature's wonders".

The story of the Methodist Mission has been told by Lee and Frost's "Ten Years in Oregon", and Allen's "Ten Years in Oregon", which deals with Dr. White's connection with the mission and with his work as sub-Indian agent.

A complete review of Dr. Whitman's mission is

given in M. Cannon's "Willatpu, Its Rise and Fall", Mowery's "Marcus Whitman", Nixon's "How Marcus Whitman Saved Oregon". A complete review of the missions in general is given in Bashford's "Oregon Missions" and Bell's "History of Indian Missions". For years a famous historical controveray has been waged over Dr. Whitman and his influence in the settlement of Oregon. There are writers who give him the entire credit of saving Oregon to the United States because of his famous ride to Washington in the winter of 1843, and the expedition which he conducted back to Oregon. There are others who gave the chief credit to Jason Lee because of his trip to the States in 1838; and there are those who, taking the historical view rather than the religious, while granting that Lee and Whitman because of their agitation of the question in the East may have influenced the minds of some people, contend that the great emigration of 1843 was due to deeper causes. Those ranging themselves on the side of Dr. Whitman are: Mowery, Gray, Bells, Nixon, and Barrows; those giving the credit to Jason Lee are: Bashford, Lee and Frost, H. K. Hines and Atwood. Those taking the historian's view are Bell, Bancroft, Dennis, Bourne, Marshall, Evans, and Scott. The English writers, George Bryce, Willson, and Fitzgerald, magnify the work of the Hudson's Bay Company at the expense of

the others, while in the lives of Tyler and Benton the chief credit for saving Oregon has been given to the American political leaders.

The story of the Catholic Missions is told by Father De Smet in his "Oregon Missions", 1847, and his numerous letters written to friends. These deal ~~not~~ not only with the missions, but are filled with descriptions of the country, its plants, animals, its Indian tribes together with anecdotes of the wild life.

F. N. Blanchet in his "Catholic Church in Oregon" and "Western Missions and Missionaries" has given a clear account of the founding of the Catholic missions, their work and progress, with many descriptions of the country, its scenery and natural conditions.

With the brief review of the missionary movement, the period closes. A short summary of the literature of it will show to what extent Oregon had become a national thought. Biddle's version of Lewis and Clark's Expedition had been published with their observations of the natives, the fauna, and the flora along the Columbia; the romantic life of the fur traders and the rivalry existing between the Hudson's Bay and American Fur Companies had been told by Irving in his "Astoria", 1836, and "Rocky Mountains", 1837; letters from the missionaries describing the mild climate, the rich soil, the bountiful crops, and the

wonderful scenery were printed and reprinted in the local press; travelers had published accounts of their tours, all extolling the wonders of the new country, and reports based on these had been introduced into Congress, a more extended discussion of which will be given in the next part.

Part II

Period of Organization, 1843 - 1859

At the beginning of the year 1842, the population of the Willamette Valley was made up of French Canadians, New England missionaries and layman, a few Hawaiian Islanders, and sailors off the whaling ships, and a few mountain men who had come to the valley when the fur trade became unprofitable. The Mission interest since 1838 had been petitioning Congress to extend the laws of the United States over the settlement but without success. They now began an agitation in the valley for a temporary government of their own, but failed to secure the cooperation of the French Canadians and were also discouraged by Wilkes, the commander of the United States Exploring Expedition in the Columbia River, who expressed himself thus: "Johnson, trapper-like, took what I thought the soundest view, saying that they yet lived in the bush, and let all do right there was no necessity for laws, lawyers, or magistrates".

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12. Wilkes, Charles. Narrative of United States Exploring Expedition, 1838-42. Vol. IV. pp. 349.

With the arrival of the emigration of the fall of 1842, the American population was almost doubled. The people of this emigration, although including a government Indian agent, some well educated trappers, and a number of lawyers were not considered by the New Englanders as industrious and moral as themselves. The following year "the proportion of hog and hominy" Westerners in the settlement was largely increased and remained preponderant for the next four years. ¹³

When a Provisional Government was again voted on in 1843, it met with success since the Americans were now in the majority. This was the first attempt at organization in the valley, and while, at the time, it caused but little comment outside the immediate vicinity, yet it has been recorded in history as one of the most important steps of the settlement.

The Organic Law adopted begins with a bill of rights similar to that of many of the state constitutions, adding thereto, "There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in said territory otherwise than for the punishment of crimes, where^{of} the party shall have been duly convicted." The executive power was vested in a committee of three, the legis-

.....
 13. Bell. Opening a Highway to the Pacific
 1838-48. pp. 155.

lative power in a committee of nine, and the judicial power in a court of three. The laws of Iowa of 1838-9 were to "be the law of the territory in civil, military, and criminal cases; where not otherwise provided for, and where no statute of Iowa Territory applies, the principles of common law and equity shall govern". The limit of their jurisdiction was set at, "the northern boundary of the United States", although that had not yet been established west of the Rocky Mountains. The law provided for "mounted riflemen", who could be called out to suppress "invasion or insurrection", and a land law similar to the land law which had been introduced into Congress. This was the form of government established when the famous emigration of 1843 reached Oregon.

In the spring of 1843, much discontent existed among the farmers of the frontier states of Indiana, Illinois, Arkansas, Iowa, and Missouri, owing to certain economic conditions, among which was a lack of suitable markets, resulting in low prices for farm produce. In the agitation for the settlement of Oregon, much had been said concerning a western port for trade with the Orient. To this new country, then, with its mild climate, rich soil, free land, and as they thought, advantages for Asiatic trade, these

frontier people looked.

Early in 1843, a large throng of these people gathered at the Spanish settlement twenty miles from Independence, Missouri, for their journey of two thousand miles to the Pacific. From now until 1847, the "wagon train", the "ox cart", and the "emigrant" became the theme of the local press of the frontier states.

It was the custom of these travelers on the plains to keep records of the journey; and diaries, almost as numerous as the emigrants, have been handed down - vivid pictures of the life itself - humorous tales, sad tales, tales of loss and discouragements, hardships endured, pleasures enjoyed and observations of the country and scenery. Letters from these pioneers also ~~xx~~ swelled the volume of literature which was published at this time. One tells of the stampede, a common danger to which the wagon trains were ~~subject~~. A horse having fallen behind the train had started to run. "The clattering hoofs as she neared the loose cattle behind the train, startled them, and when she came a little closer away they started too; as they came nearer the train, an ox in the hindermost wagon became unmanageable and when they came up, each ox gave a frightful bawl, and started out, with elongated tail; it spread from wagon to wagon along the whole line, with the velocity of a telegraph dispatch. The ox, you know,

has the reputation of being rather a slow animal, but, upon my honor, in a stampede, I don't think I ever saw anything so fast."¹⁴

Of their pleasures we read, "We all take a great deal of comfort and have jolly times, if we are in the wilderness. It is almost always the case that someone was thoughtful enough to bring a deck of cards with him; and if they have none of them, they bet on the distance to some hill or on the distance traveled during the day or that my oxen can draw more than yours."¹⁵

A newspaper gives the account of the organization: "The candidates stood up in a row behind the constituents, and at a given signal they wheeled about and marched off, while the general mass broke after them 'lickety-split', each man forming in behind his favorite, so that every candidate flourished a sort of tail of his own, and the man with the longest tail was elected.....These men were running about the prairie in long strings; the leaders in sport, and for the purpose of puzzling the judges, doubling and winding in the drollest fashion; so that the all important business

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- 14. Oregon Historical Quarterly. Vol. XV. pp.210-215. Letter of O. A. Brooks. 1851.
 - 16. Oregon Pioneer Transactions. 1893. p. 84. Letter of Andrew Rogers, Jr. 1846.

of forming a government seemed very much like the
 merry school boy game of "snapping the whip".¹⁶

Besides the diaries, letters, and press articles, many accounts of the emigration movement have been written. One of the best accounts is written by Ezra Meeker in his "Ox Team on the Old Oregon Trail". Mr. Meeker made the trip in 1846 and re-traveled it again in 1896. Edward Henry Lenox gives us the story of the first immigration in his "Overland to Oregon in the Tracks of Lewis and Clark", and George Martin tells "How the Trail Became a Road". It has also been used as a basis for fiction. James Otis Kaler has based his "Antoine of Oregon" upon it; Mrs. Mary Hallock Foote has used it in her "A Picked Company", and Emerson Hough makes it the background for "The Covered Wagon". It is also the subject of an epic poem, "Blazing the Oregon Trail", by Cyrus H. Walker.

With the large emigrations to Oregon and the settlement of the Willamette Valley, demands were made upon Congress for the termination of the treaty of joint occupation, and the settlement of the boundary question. Resolutions and petitions from the citizens, both from individuals and companies were sent to Congress, bills were introduced, and diplomatic negotiations

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 16. Oregon Historical Quarterly. Vol. I. pp.399,400.
 From N. O. Picayune. 1843.

finally ended the agitation.

In 1818, a treaty of joint occupation of the Oregon country was concluded between the United States and Great Britain. Soon after this, agitation for occupation of Oregon began. In 1820 Senator Floyd of Virginia introduced a bill into Congress providing for the military occupation of the country and recognition of the right of the United States to govern it. The bill failed since it was in violation of the treaty rights. In 1828, the same man tried to pass a land grant bill, granting specified amounts to actual settlers. In this same year, the treaty of joint occupation was renewed with the proviso that it could be abrogated on a one year's notice.

In 1838, Senator Linn of Missouri introduced a bill into the Senate with a long report on Oregon, with the purpose of establishing a fort at the mouth of the Columbia and a territorial government for Oregon north of 42° north latitude.

This report reviewed the claims of the United States up to the 49° of north latitude and asserted the necessity of a good harbor on the Pacific Coast on the account of the whaling industry. Quotations were given from the report of W. A. Slocum, who had been sent by the President to make investigations on conditions in Oregon; from Irving's "Astoria"; from

Lewis and Clark's journals, and from the account of Colonel Dodge's march across the plains. It closes with a request that steps be taken toward the termination of the treaty between the two countries.

In 1839, numerous conventions were held throughout the western states and petitions from them sent to Congress asking for the extension of the laws of the United States to Oregon or for military protection for the emigrants.

In the same year, Callet Cushing introduced a long report into the House. Ten thousand copies of this were printed for distribution. It argued our claim on Oregon up to 54 40', described the seacoast and harbors, climate, soil, productions, and trade. Its purpose was to show the necessity of providing protection for the settlers of the Willamette Valley. To prove the need, Cushing produced a memorial from the missionaries; a memoir from Nathaniel J. Wyeth, describing the climate, soil, geography, agriculture, and resources; an exposition of the aims of the Oregon Provisional Emigration Society; statements relative to the cost of sending armed forces into Oregon by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy.

In 1840, numerous petitions from the Congressmen and Senators of the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, and Illinois were sent to Congress for the extension

of the laws of the United States over Oregon; for land grants to their citizens, and for protection for the settlers already there. In this same year, Linn of Missouri introduced a bill into Congress asking that the boundary lines be fixed, and that military posts from Leavenworth to the Rocky Mountains be established, also that a land grant be made to the settlers. In 1842, he introduced a similar bill with petitions from the citizens of Michigan asking for military occupation of Oregon, and for the formation of a territorial government.

Many bodies of citizens passed resolutions setting forth the claim of the United States to the territory between the Mexican and Russian territory, and in 1843, a convention of citizens of the Mississippi Valley was held for the purpose of urging the "immediate occupation of the Oregon Territory by the arms and laws of the Republic".¹⁷

But there were those who were opposed to extending the laws over Oregon and we find a different tone in their speeches. In 1825, Senator Benton said, "The ridge of the Rocky Mountains may be named as a convenient, natural, and everlasting boundary. Along this ridge the western limits of the Republic should

be drawn and the statue of the fabled God Terminus should be erected on its highest peak, never to be thrown down." ¹⁸

His speech of 1844 shows the change in sentiment exhibited by many of the politicians. He says, "Let the immigration go on and carry the rifles. We want thirty thousand rifles in the valley of the Oregon. The war, if it comes, will not be topical; it will not be confined to Oregon, it will embrace the possessions of the two powers throughout the globe." ¹⁹

Of this same country, Webster said, "What do we want of this vast, worthless area, this region of savages and wild beasts, of shifting sands and whirlwinds of dust, of cactus and prairie dog? To what use could we ever hope to put these great deserts or these great mountain ranges, impenetrable and covered to their base with external snow? What can we ever hope to do with the western coast, a coast of three thousand miles, rock bound, cheerless and uninviting and not a harbor on it? What use have we for such a country? Mr. President, I will not vote one cent from the public treasury to place the Pacific Coast ²⁰ one inch nearer Boston than it is now."

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18. Nixon, Oliver Woodson. How Marcus Whitman Saved Oregon. p. 41.

19. Ibid. p. 170.

20. Lyman, William Denison. The Columbia River. p. 187.

Many of the speeches speak of the "impassable mountains", the "impossibility of a wagon road", an "irreclaimable and barren waste", and "the unfriendly climate".

The National Intelligencer of Louisville, Kentucky, expressed sentiments as follows as late as 1844: "Of all the countries upon the face of the earth, Oregon is one of the least favored by heaven. It is a mere riddling of creation. It is almost as barren as Sahara and quite as unhealthy as the Campagna of Italy. Russia has her Siberia and England has her Botany Bay, and if the United States should ever need a country to which to banish her rogues and scoundrels, the ability of such a region as Oregon would be demonstrated. Until then, we are perfectly willing to leave this magnificent country to Indians, trappers, and buffalo hunters that roam over the sand banks."²¹

"Texas and Oregon" became the campaign cry of 1844, and it was on this platform that Polk was elected President of the United States. A large part of his inaugural address was given up to the discussion of our title to Oregon, which he declared to be "clear and unquestionable".

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20. Lyman, William Denison. The Columbia River. p.187.

21. Nixon, Oliver Woodson. How Marcus Whitman Saved Oregon. p. 44.

Bills for erecting forts and abrogating the joint occupation treaty with the extension of the laws over the territory continued to be passed; and to the claim of 54° 40', the people added, "or fight".

While the people clamored for war, negotiations were begun between England and the United States which resulted in a treaty (1846) making the northwest boundary line 49° north latitude. The whole story of the acquisition of this territory is told by William Isaac Marshall in his, "Acquisition of Oregon", in two volumes published in 1911. Emerson Hough's "54° 40' or Fight" is a work of fiction dealing with this same subject, and the usual story of romance interwoven.

Although the Treaty of 1846 fulfilled the demands of the people in regard to the boundary, it did not extend the protection of the laws of the United States over the people of Oregon nor settle their land claims. Repeated petitions were sent Congress for territorial organization, but were ignored. Finally a delegate was sent to Congress. Prior to his arrival, bills had been introduced into Congress for organization, but because they contained the clause forbidding slavery, they had been defeated by the pro-slavery members of Congress. These bills were now reorganized, but still contained the clause relating to slavery, and one containing the important provisions of the former ones

was introduced. It was over this bill that Mr. Corwin gave his memorable speech in the Senate. In spite of the efforts by the Southern members to defeat the bill, it passed, and Oregon became an organized territory in 1849.

With discovery of gold in California, great excitement prevailed in Oregon. Men left the occupations, organized themselves into companies, and either marched overland or went by water to the mines of California, where they became known as "The Columbia River Men". Many of these, however, returned, "usually with double-thick buckskin pouches well filled with dust hung around their waists under their belts, well girded also with several braces of pistols".²² This was the first appearance of the miner in Oregon.

Soon trouble arose between these miners passing to and from California and the Indians of Southern Oregon. Then the conspiracy formed among all the Indian tribes of Oregon for the extermination of the white men, made the presence of the soldier necessary. Hence, the decade of the 50's was one in which the soldier was a prominent figure and his story is written in the accounts of the Oregon Indian Wars.

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 22. Lyman, Horace Sumner. The Growth of an American State. p. 139.

With the close of this decade, 1859, Oregon was admitted to the Union with practically no question in regard to slavery. Henceforth, her history is one of progress and development of her industries, many of which had their beginning before she could rightfully claim herself a part of the United States.

Chapter Three: Contributing Element - Nature

Oregon is a state of wonderful diversity of scene-plains and prairies, high mountains, wide valleys, arid lands, and well watered regions. It is separated into two widely contrasted physiographic parts by the Cascade Range of mountains extending from north to south across the western portion. From the summit of these mountains on the west slope, extend the vast forests with their heavy undergrowth. To the south-east is the desert with its contrasting vegetation of sage brush, and to the north-east are the vast treeless plains. Along the northern boundary of the state flows the Columbia River, and through the valley between the Cascade and Coast ranges, flows the Willamette River northward to the Columbia. It is with these physical features and their characteristic birds and animals that this chapter will deal.

The Columbia River, the "Wauna" of the Indians,¹ the "La Rogue" of the Spaniards, has contributed more

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1. Horner, J. B. Oregon: its Literature and its People. p. 35.

than any other physical feature of Oregon in literature. It is a part of the mythical, historical, commercial, and scenic literature in which Oregon has played so large a part.

The most beautiful fire myth of the Indians, "The Tamanawas Bridge", is connected with the Cascades of the Columbia. Briefly, the story is as follows: The two sons of the Klickitat god, Tyhee Saghalie, quarrelled over the beautiful country around the Dalles. Shooting an arrow to the north and one to the west, Saghalie bade his sons find the arrows and settle where they had fallen. Thus, one settled between the Columbia and the Yakima River and became the grandfather of the Klickitats; the other settled in the Willamette Valley and became the ancestor of the Multnomah tribe. Saghalie raised the great mountains separating these regions so that the tribes might be at peace. But, as yet, there were no snow peaks. That the two tribes, separated by the river, might be friendly, Saghalie placed a huge bridge over the river, which the Indians called the tamanawas bridge, or bridge of the gods. A witch-woman, Loowit, who had charge of the only fire in the world, lived upon it. She begged Saghalie to allow her to give fire to the tribe. The request was granted, and a fire was built on the bridge. Thus, the Indians obtained fire, which, so runs the myth,

greatly improved their condition. For this, Saghalie transformed Loowit into a beautiful maiden. Many chiefs fell in love with her, but she heeded none till Klickitat came from the north and Wiyeast from the west. Loowit being undecided whom to accept, the tribes went to war. Saghalie grew angry, broke down the bridge, and put Loowit, Wiyeast, and Klickitat to death; but since they had been beautiful in life, he made them beautiful in death. Wiyeast became Mt. Hood; Klickitat became Mt. Adams; Loowit became Mt. St. Helens. It was Saghalie's decree that they should be clothed always in snow. Thus, the tamahawas bridge was destroyed, and the river dammed with huge rocks, known now as the Cascade rapids.

Another myth of less interest than the one connected with the bridge is that of the Chinook wind which blows over the river. Speelyei, the crafty coyote, takes part in this, brings the winds into a contest of strength in which Young Chinook is victorious. To him Speelyei says, "You must blow only lightly, and you must blow first upon the mountains to warn the people of your coming".

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 2. Williams, John H. Guardians of the Columbia.
 pp. 42-3.

3. Ibid. pp. 47-8.

Many other myths are connected with this river, for on the south bank along Clatsop beach is the greatest region in Oregon of Indian legend and romance. It is here, according to the Indians, that the white man first appeared. Pillar Rock is a man transformed by the coyote into rock because of disobedience.

"No river upon the continent, and few upon the globe have held a larger place in history, considering the time it has been known, than this 'River of the West'." ⁴ Lewis and Clark descended it and spent the winter of 1816 on its banks, making daily entries in their diaries concerning the river itself, and the plants and the animals along its banks. It was down the Columbia the annual brigade of the Hudson's Bay Company came, "the chief trader's barge in advance with the Company's flag at the bow and the Cross of St. George at the stern; the fleet as many a-breast as the turnings of the river allowed. With strong and skillful strokes, the boatmen governed their richly laden boats, keeping them in line, and at the same time singing in chorus a loud and not unmusical hunting or boating song. The gay ribbons and feathers with which the singers were bedecked took nothing from the

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 4. Chittenden, H. M. History of the American Fur Trade in the Far West. Vol. 2. p. 790-1.

picturesqueness of their appearance. The broad full river, sparkling in the sunlight, gemmed with emerald islands and bordered with rich growth of shrubbery; the smiling plain surrounding the Fort; the distant mountains where glittered the sentinel, Mt. Hood, all came gracefully into the picture and seemed to furnish a fitting background and middle distance for a bright bit of coloring given by the moving life in the scene." ⁵

To and fro on this river went the missionaries recording the life along it in their letters sent to the East. After them came the immigrants. Tales of adventure, of lives lost, and of hardships endured, while passing the dangerous Cascades on the river are told by the pioneers. Many allusions are made to the Columbia in the debates in Congress since England attempted to have the boundary line between her own territory and that of the United States fixed on that river. The soldiers during the time of the Indian Wars had their headquarters on its banks. Later, it enters into the story of the industries. The canoe gives way to the steamboat; railroads are built on its banks; canneries are established and the fishing wheel is a common sight. The wheat from the Inland Empire, the lumber from the mills, the fruit from the valleys

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5. Victor, Mrs. Frances Fuller. River of the West.
p. 212.

are carried over the Columbia River. Thus, the Columbia River has entered largely into the commercial literature of the country.

Far-famed is the beauty of the Columbia River scenery. From the chance remarks upon it in the first narratives, the material written about it has grown to volumes. Its "handsome little islands like groups of flowers thrown in",⁶ "the broad, massive course with its wild and imposing scenery",⁷ "the stern chasm where the Columbia, Achilles of rivers, sweeps, short-lived and jubilant to the sea",⁸ "the magnificent Cascades of the Columbia",⁹ the basaltic formation of Pillar Rock,¹⁰ "the romantic grandeur", the curious and interesting Memaloose Island, Celilo Falls and the "Dalles, the Inferno of the Yankee Dante",¹¹ all bear their part in the literature concerning the river.

Many comparisons are drawn between the river and others famed for their beauty. Rev. Mr. Parker in

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6. De Smet, Father P. J. Oregon Missions. p. 163.
 7. Winthrop, Theodore. Canoe and Saddle. p. 244.
 8. Ibid. p. 36.
 9. Ibid. p. 30
 10. Gass, Patrick. Lewis and Clark Expedition. p. 157.
 11. Winthrop, Theodore. Canoe and Saddle. p. 212.

his "Journal of an Exploring Tour Beyond the Rocky Mountains" says, "Niagara itself, if we except its unbroken fall of one hundred and fifty feet, cannot bear a comparison with the superior style of nature's work here."¹² In his "Auto-birds of Passage", E. A. Powell says, "I have loitered my leisurely way down many famous rivers, - the St. Lawrence, the Hudson, the Mississippi, the Skeena, the Fraser, the Rio Balsas, the Rhine, the Danube, the Volga, the Ganges, the Zambezi, the Nile - and I assert, after having duly weighed my words, that in the continuity and grandeur of its scenery, the Columbia is the superior of them all."¹³

In regard to the beauty of its scenery, Father De Smet says, "It is here the painter should go to study his art - here he would find the loveliest scenery, the most varied and brilliant coloring. At every step the scene becomes more ravishing; the perspective more noble and majestic. In no other part of the world is nature so great a coquette as here."¹⁴

Mrs. Helen Hunt Jackson in her "Glimpse of Three Coasts" has given an interesting description of a trip up the Columbia River which she took in 1883. A

.....
12. Parker, Rev. Samuel. Journal of an Exploring Tour Beyond the Rocky Mountains. p.322.

13. Powell, E. A. Auto-birds of Passage. Sunset. 32:1258

14. De Smet, Father P. J. Oregon Missions. p.163.

humorous account of the crossing of the bar at the mouth of the Columbia is given, then follows a description of Astoria set up on stilts, Portland surrounded as it was in those days by woods and rural scenes, and the Dalles, with the usual exclamations over the beauty of the river.

Hezekiah Butterworth's "Log School-house on the Columbia" is a story of life on the Columbia when the Indians still held possession of the banks; when the settlers were few and the forests were still full of wild animals.

"Life in the World's Wonderland" by Theodore Gerrich, describes the beauties of the Columbia River, tells stories of the old trappers and their life on it, of the Indian battlegrounds and of freighters and miners who passed through its valley.

Trips on this river and descriptions of its scenic beauty have entered largely into the magazine articles concerning Oregon, but these articles are too numerous to be reviewed here.

Another river of Oregon has entered into literature, though not to the extent of the Columbia River. Between the two ranges of mountains extends the valley of the Willamette River, "The Valley of Content".¹⁵ The snow-

.....
 15. Putnam, George Palmer. In the Oregon Country.
 p. 14.

clad peaks of the Cascades lie to the east, while to the west, the gentle slopes of the Coast Range separate it from the sea. Winthrop has described it as "a sweet Acadian valley", "nature's simple labor of love", "refined and finished landscape in the presence of landscape strong, savage, majestic".¹⁶

The scenery of these two valleys, the Columbia and the Willamette, is a vast contrast - the one is strong, majestic, grand; the other is quiet, peaceful, and exquisite.

The valley also is prominent in history. In this valley, the Frenchmen from the Hudson's Bay Company settled on what came to be known as French Prairie. This was the beginning of agriculture in Oregon. In this valley was formed the first organized government west of the Rocky Mountains, known as the Provisional Government; here the Methodist missionaries established their mission; and it was for this valley the race for settlement was made that saved Oregon to the United States.

Closely associated with the Willamette Valley is the range of forest-covered mountains stretching from north to south across the state. It is a range of unusual beauty with its snow-capped peaks and rushing

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 16. Winthrop, Theodore. Canoe and Saddle. p. 104.

waterfalls, its lakes and its drapery of forests. It is a range consisting of a number of peaks, but the one receiving the most fame is Mt. Hood, the first of the series. Its snow covered summit is almost the first thing to claim the attention of the traveler from the East, and none of the early narratives fail to mention it. Lewis and Clark in their journals speak of "the mountain covered with snow".¹⁷ Winthrop calls it "the vigorous prince of the range"¹⁸ and "sublime pyramid of snows".¹⁹ Powell says, "Nowhere in Switzerland do I recall a picture of such surpassing splendor as that which stood before us, as though on a titantic easel.....It is, indeed, so very wonderful that those Americans who know and love the world's white roof-trees can no longer be justified in turning their faces toward the Alps."²⁰ But the highest tribute to this great mountain peak is paid by John Muir. "There stood Mount Hood in all the glory of the alpen glow, looming immensely high, beaming with intelligence. It seemed neither near nor far.....The

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 17. Lewis and Clark. Original Journals. Vol. 7. p. 192.

18. Winthrop, Theodore. Canoe and Saddle. p. 39.

19. Ibid. p. 87.

20. Powell, E. A. Auto-birds of Passage. Sunset. 32:1262.

whole mountain appeared as one glorious manifestation of divine power, enthusiastic and benevolent, glowing like a countenance with ineffable repose and beauty, before which we could only gaze with devout and lowly²¹ admiration."

John H. Williams devotes a chapter of his "Guardians of the Columbia" to the mountains of the Northwest. A part of this chapter deals with Mt. Hood, describing especially the glacial formations.

Dallas Lore Sharp has written a delightful little²² essay entitled "Mount Hood from Council Crest". "One²³ of the perfect things of the world", he calls Mt. Hood. Then he wonders what the influence of this perfect thing on the city of Portland will be. "Shall Portland be the mother of one great poet, or of one great painter, or of one great prophet because, high and lifted up above her streets, stands this holy mountain whose very shape is prophecy, whose radiance is the indwelling light of all true art, and the very²⁴ soul of song?"

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21. Williams, John H. The Guardians of the Columbia. p. 57.

22. Sharp, Dallas Lore. Where Ralls the Oregon. pp. 240-45.

23. Ibid. pp. 240-1.

24. Ibid. pp. 240-1.

This mountain, however, is not the only one in the range which is a fit subject for writers. In the southern part of the range is Mount Mazama. In the crater of this extinct volcano is a lake nearly circular in shape and about five miles in diameter. This lake is completely enclosed in walls of igneous rock which in places rise to a height of two thousand feet. From only one point can the surface of this lake be reached, descent being made by means of a foot path.

Two Indian myths are connected with this lake. The first tells of a band of Klamath Indians who came unexpectedly upon the lake but fled in terror. One, braver than the others, remained, lighted a fire, and slept. After returning several times, he ventured finally to the water's edge. Then he dared to bathe in it and was filled with great strength. The entire tribe now bathed in it and became very strong. Finally the first brave was seized by a monster and borne to the highest part of the rim where his body was torn to pieces.

The second myth tells of a mystic land of Gaywas, the home of the god, Iao. His throne was in the depth of the water where he was surrounded by warriors, giant crawfish, able to lift great claws out of the water and seize enemies on the cliff tops. War broke out with Skell, the god of the Klamath marshes. Skell was

captured and his heart used for a ball by Lao's monsters. But an eagle, one of Skell's servants, captured it in flight, and a deer, another servant, escaped with it. Skell's body grew again, and he waged war against Lao, captured him, tore his body into fragments, and cast it into the lake, where all but the head was eaten by Lao's monsters. The head now forms Wizard Island.

The chief characteristic of this lake seems to be the wonderful color of its water. All writers speak of this. It has been likened to a wash-tub, filled with blueing from the skies in which Hercules is condemned to wash the clothing of the world. The same authority has said of it, "as blue as lapis lazuli, as a forget-me-not, as an Italian sky, as a baby's eyes, or as Monday morning". "The deepest and bluest lake in the world.....It is a gem of wonderful color in a setting of pearly lavas relieved by patches of pine green and snowy white - a gem which changes hue with every atmospheric change and every shift of light." "So bright, so intensely blue is the lake, that it seems at times, to rise right in your face."

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- 25. Department of Interior. Our National Parks. 1916. pp. 1-3.
 - 26. Powell, E. A. Auto-birds of Passage. Sunset. 32:1064.
 - 27. Ibid.
 - 28. Department of Interior. Our National Parks. 1916. p. 1.
 - 29. Miller, Joaquin. Quoted from Horner, J. B. Oregon. p. 201.

The lake is also famous for its formation. J. S. Diller of the United States Geological Survey says that it "affords one of the most interesting and instructive fields for the study of volcanic geology to be found anywhere in the world. Considered in all its aspects, it ranks with the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, the Yosemite Valley, and the Falls of Niagara, but with an individuality that is superlative."³⁰

E. A. Powell says it is probably the most extraordinary formation of its kind in the world.³¹

In the extreme southern part of the Cascade Range are the caves, "The Marble Halls of Oregon", consisting of five chambers. The Ghost Room or Dante's Inferno is located sixteen hundred feet beneath the summit of the mountain. The "Graveyard" chamber is second in size, being seventy-five feet long and twenty-five feet wide.³²

The walls, ceilings, and floors of these chambers are decorated with huge flowers and vegetables in limestone.³³ Compared with Mammoth Cave, they are

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- 30. Department of Interior. Crater Lake National Park. p. 6.
 - 31. Howell, E. A. Crater Lake. Sunset. 31:66-75.
 - 32. Murphy, T. D. Picturesque Oregon. p. 200.
 - 33. Ibid.

greatly superior in size and beauty.

Looking north, west, and south from the crest of the Cascades, one sees the vast forests of the Northwest. Along the broad crests of the Cascades, down the long spurs that lead to the valleys and across the Coast Range lies a wealth of timber found in no other region. These are the dense, dark forests of the early narratives and the scene of the lumber camp of later days. It is their vastness and silence that seem to impress everyone. T. S. Van Dyke says, "Stupendous silence rested on the greater part of this dense forest. For hours at a time there was not even the faintest peep of a bird, the flash of a squirrel or the hum of an insect through the vast, sombre halls formed by the serried ranks of tree trunks. No such impressive solitude can be found upon the sea or desert as in these great shades." ³⁵ Parker calls it ³⁶ the "most heavy and dense forest of any part of America."

There are many kinds of trees in these forests, but the one which has received the most notice is the Douglas fir. It is the most abundant species and

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34. Powell, E. A. Auto-birds of Passage. Sunset. 31:66-75

35. Van Dyke, T. S. In the Big Woods of Oregon. Outing 47:613-8.

36. Parker, Rev. Samuel. Journal of an Exploring Tour Beyond the Rocky Mountains.

commercially the most important. Winthrop says it is
 "one of the kings of the treeland".³⁷ It is sometimes
 called the Douglas spruce or Oregon pine. In the
 dense shade of the forest, it raises a straight trunk,
 clear of limb for a hundred feet. This tree is a
 great source of wealth to the Northwest, furnishing
 the finest and largest saw timber of any of the native
 trees. It received its name from David Douglas, a
 Scotch naturalist who explored the forests of Oregon
 and discovered this particular tree. "The Man of
 Grass"³⁸ he was called by the Indians.

One important characteristic of these forests is
 the tangled undergrowth throughout them. So thick and
 heavy is this mass of shrubs and vines and plants that
 in places it might almost be referred to as a jungle.
 The parasites cling to the tree, climb it to a certain
 height, and then, letting their tops fall to the earth,
 take root; then they shoot up and climb from branch
 to branch and from tree to tree until "tangled, twist-
 ed, and knotted in every possible form, they festoon
 the whole forest with drapery in which a ground work
 of the richest verdure is diversified with garlands
 of the most varied and many colored flowers".³⁹

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 37. Winthrop, Theodore. Canoe and Saddle. p. 66

38. Williams, J. H. Guardians of the Columbia.
 pp. 131-2.

39. De Smet, Father P. J. Oregon Missions. p. 162.

One more physical feature has contributed to literature - the desert of Oregon in the southeastern part of the Inland Empire. This is the land of great distances, of sagebrush and grease wood, the land where every living plant is gray from the dust, the land of stony lava ridges and sage, sage, sage. This is the land of the homesteader's claim, "spots of desolation in the desert, a man ploughing the sage - a woman keeping the shack - a patch of dust against the dust, a shadow within a shadow - sage and sand and space".⁴⁰ Hulbert calls it "the land where it isn't hot but only seems not; the land where the sage follows you whether in the dead woods or out on the open plain".⁴¹ Yet this desert is not without its beauty. There are spots which for their wonderful coloring have been compared with the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. Such a spot is Tygh Valley - "the red of the raw earth, the gray of the sage brush, the purple and brown of the bare rocks and stony slides, deep blue shadows in the gulches, dark summits against the blazing sky, great white cumulus clouds and away down in the bottom the dull green of scrub oak".

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 40. Sharp, Dallas Lore. Where Rolls the Oregon. pp. 47-58

41. Hulbert, W. D. All Among the Sage Brush. Outing 66:423-30.

42. Ibid. 66:425.

As the different parts of Oregon differ in physical features and climate, so they differ in animal and bird life, each part having its own particular species - the sea coast, the forests, the river, the plains, and the desert all having their own characteristic life.

The sea otter of the coast brought the snips of New England merchants to the Northwest; Lewis and Clark mention them in their journals, saying that the Indians valued the sea otter skin highly.

Dallas Lore Sharp mentions the sea lions of the Tillamook Coast, characterizing them as "lumpish, uncouth forms, flippered, reversed in shape, with throats like the caves of AEolus, hollow, hoarse, discordant".⁴³ An idea of their number may be obtained

from a quotation from the same author when he says "where the lion herds lay sleeping on the lower rocks⁴³ in the sun".

In the forests are found animals of all species and sizes - the bear, the elk, the deer, the cougar, and numerous others. These enter into the many hunting articles found/ especially in the western magazines - the Sunset, the Pacific Monthly, the Overland, and in sporting magazines like the Outing.

The Columbia River is famous for its salmon, which

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43. Sharp, Dallas Lore. Where Rolls the Oregon.
p. 5-6.

was as important to the primitive people as it is to the people of today. It entered into the Indian myth of the Chinook wind; it was the cause of the annual Indian festival held at the Dalles, which is described in all the early narratives. "Indians flock thither from different quarters of the interior, to attend, at this season of the year, the salmon fisheries. This is their glorious time for rejoicing, gambling, and feasting; the long lent is passed; they have at last assembled in the midst of abundance all that the eye⁴⁴ can see, or nose smell, is fish and nothing but fish."

Today salmon fishing is one of the greatest industries of Oregon, and hence it plays an important part in the commercial literature of the Northwest.

Up and down the rivers and through the mountains went the trappers in the early days in search of the beaver. Lewis and Clark said, "Those animals are plentiful near the sea coast and on the small creeks⁴⁵ and rivers as high as grand rapids". But the trappers found them wherever there was a stream of water, and the story of the trapper is the story of the beaver.

On the plains was found the antelope in the early days. The emigrants found them in great numbers and

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44. De Smet, Father P. J. Oregon Missions. p. 282.

45. Lewis and Clark. Original Journals. Vol. 2.
p. 307.

they served as food for hundreds of the inhabitants of the ox cart. "Now all that is left of the myriads that bounded gracefully over the plains in that by-gone period are a few scattered herds that have found a none too friendly abiding place in southeastern Oregon and northern Nevada." ⁴⁶ "Sagebrush and sand and lava are his final domain and the saddening fact of his diminished numbers is thrice saddening for that, ⁴⁷ there, too, the slaughter continues."

Typical of the mountain section are the mountain sheep, although now almost as scarce as the antelope. "The sheep", said Lewis and Clark, "is found in various parts of the Rocky Mountains, but most commonly in those parts which are timbered and steep. They are found in greater abundance on the chain of mountains which form the commencement of the woody country on this coast and which pass the Columbia between the great falls and rapids." ⁴⁸ Professor Lewis Lindsay Dyche, formerly of the University of Kansas, said they ranged from New Mexico to British Columbia and are seen as far east as the Black Hills and west to the Pacific Ocean. ⁴⁹

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46. McCool, James H. The Sunday Oregonian. Jan. 28, 1923.

47. Lampman, Ben Hur. Last Stand of the Prong Horn. Oregonian. Jan. 7, 1923.

48. Lewis and Clark. Original Journals. Vol. 4. p.95-6.

49. Edwards, Clarence E. Campfires of a Naturalist. p. 142.

A curious little animal of the Wallowa Range is the cony, or "pika", "the little chief", or "crying" hare.⁵⁰ It is a tiny, shy little creature found only in high altitudes, living among the broken rocks. To this tiny animal, Dallas Lore Sharp has given a chapter of his book "Where Rolls the Oregon". He likens the little animal to a half-grown cotton-tail rabbit without the cotton tail, turned into a guinea-pig with large, round ears. The name, cony, comes from the cony of the Bible, a very different animal.⁵¹ An interesting custom of the animal as told in this chapter is the storing of hay for its winter food. "They cut and cock the grass about the slide until it is cured; then they carry it below against the coming of the cold."⁵² Great hurry and excitement is manifested by them while this is being done.

In the desert is found the coyote, - "the shadow of the desert" Sharp calls him.⁵³ "He lurked behind every rise we topped, in every gully we cut, and beyond every flat we crossed."⁵⁴ "A loping, backward-looking figure", he calls the coyote, "which halts at the edge of the brush, then leaps the rocky rim and is

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50. Sharp, Dallas Lore. Where Rolls the Oregon.p.174.

51. Ibid. p. 183.

52. Ibid. p. 187-8/

53. Ibid. p. 71.

54. Ibid. p. 73.

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lost." This is the animal which plays such an important part in the Indian myths, especially in the stories of the plains Indians. The pioneer tales of the emigrants frequently speak of him, but always with the feeling of contempt, and with the homesteader of the desert, it is something more than contempt, it is an expression of hatred with which he is mentioned.

The United States government has done much for the preservation of wild life in Oregon, and especially is this true in regard to the birds. Four reservations have been set off in order to preserve species that were rapidly becoming extinct because of the ruthless slaughter of plume hunters. These reservations are: Three-Arch Rocks off the Tillamook Coast, Cold Springs in the northeastern part of the state, Malheur Lake including Harney and Silver Lakes, and the Klamath Lake reservation lying partly in Oregon and partly in California.

As the result of a visit paid two of these reservations, Mr. Dallas Lore Sharp has given us nature essays of the birds of Three-Arch Rocks and of Malheur Lake. In "Three Arch-Rocks" it is of the life of California murrelets, Brandt's cormorants, the gulls, tufted puffins, and the petrels that he tells us. Of

his visit here he says, "Instead of miles, it was zones, ages, worlds that were traveled as I passed into this haunt of wild sea-bird and beast".⁵⁶ In the essay "The Marshes of Malheur", Mr. Sharp deals with the egrets, the pelicans, and the grebes. So numerous were the birds of the Malheur Reservation that he says, "The sedges were full of birds, the waters were full of birds, the tules were full of birds, the skies were full of birds, clouds of them, acres of them, square miles of them - one hundred and forty-three square miles of them".⁵⁷

Two other essays, Mr. Sharp has written concerning birds of Oregon - one, on the "Des Chutes Raven, the sombre, suspicious, unsociable, uncanny croaker of the strong black wing living on the shelf of a rock high up in the canon wall";⁵⁸ and the other, on the petrel of the coast, "the little mariner", "Mother Carey's Chicken".⁵⁹

The southeastern part of Oregon "is historic ground for the bird man".⁶⁰ In the early seventies

.....
56. Sharp, Dallas Lore. Where Rolls the Oregon.
p. 8.

57. Ibid. p. 96.

58. Ibid. p. 31.

59. Ibid. p. 193.

60. Finley, William L. The Trail of the Plume Hunter. Atlantic Monthly. September, 1910.
p. 20.

Captain Charles Bendire, the ornithologist, was stationed at Camp Harney on the southern slope of the Blue Mountains. The first account of bird-life in this region is given in his "Notes on Some of the Birds found in Southeastern Oregon, Particularly in the Vicinity of Camp Harney from November 1874 to January 1877".

A short account of the birds of the Willamette Valley is found in O. B. Johnson's "List of Birds of the Willamette Valley". This account is reprinted from the American Naturalist of July 1880.⁶¹ It is a brief statement of the birds found there, a description of them and a discussion of some of their habits.

Considering the variety of the species of birds found in Oregon, comparatively little has been written concerning them, excluding the articles written by the writers of the state; but with the extensive travel that is now going on through the state, and the opening of new roads, making accessible those regions which have been inaccessible, more interest may in time be developed in the bird life of the state.

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 61. Johnson, O. B. List of Birds of Willamette Valley. American Naturalist. July 1880. pp. 485-491; 635-641.

Chapter Four: State Literature.

Regionalism is one of the chief characteristics of present day literature. Almost all American writers, excluding writers of history and science, owe a part of their reputation, at least, to it. State literature is but a smaller unit of the regional literature; it is a literature of localities, and "American fiction at its best is mainly an affair of localities"¹. Local color is an important element in the setting, not simply as local color, but so that the characters and their situations and problems may be consistent.

Every state differs in some respects from all other states. The farmer of the New England States is not the farmer of the Pacific States; the miner of Kansas is not the miner of California. It is the differences in types, traditions, and environment that set off the literature of one state from another.

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1. Liebermann, Elias. The American Short Story.
p. 7.

In this chapter on the state literature of Oregon, three points will be discussed, namely: some of the personal types that have arisen in Oregon which would serve as a basis for literature; some state literature that has been produced; and the movement throughout the state for the production of literature.

Oregon is a region which by its physical features was, in early times, almost isolated from the rest of the country. Great plains separated it from the inhabited part of the United States. There were mountains to the east and the ocean to the west, to the north was a region as wild as itself and to the south was a dense forest that shut it off from the sparsely settled country of California.

Over this region in primeval times roamed the Indian, hunting, fishing, and fighting, each tribe with its own particular habits and customs. Then the explorer found his way along the coast. The ships of the New England merchant followed in a short time, and the trader appeared, exchanging trifles for the furs of the Indians.

Then followed the race between the fur companies, and the trapper became the central figure. Sometimes it was the mountain man, dressed in Indian style, living the life of the Indian, wandering here and there with his Indian wife and half-breed children;

sometimes it was the French Canadian in his canoe piled with pelts floating down the Columbia.

The adventurer and the New England missionaries followed, and soon the settlers had found their way across the prairies. The settlers who came to this isolated region came chiefly from the southern and border states. In this new land the forests abounded with game, the rivers were filled with fish, the soil was fertile, the climate was mild, so that but little exertion was necessary to supply the wants of these people. They were a mixture of conservatism and daring. They braved two thousand miles of wilderness, but when they reached Oregon, they proceeded to live in the same way, and to do the same things they had done in the Mississippi Valley. They had but few cares and but few wants, yet they were a sturdy, independent, and self-reliant people. Thus grew up the slow-going, calm, contented farmer type of the Willamette Valley, who earned for himself the title of "mossback".

With the discovery of gold in California, many Oregonians, armed with pick, shovel, and rifle, trekked across the country to the mining region, returning later with well-filled pauches. Now the miner became a familiar figure.

When the Indian wars broke out, the soldier crossed

and re-crossed the state. With the settlement of California came the demand for Oregon lumber, and the lumber camp with its rude shacks set in deep woods came into existence. A mixed crowd it was that inhabited them. Some of the men were from the lumber camps of Michigan, Maine, and Wisconsin, and many were Swedes and Norwegians from Europe. "Sitting about the fire of an evening, one could find men with whom to discuss almost any subject under the sun and with wit and intelligence too; the poet who could repeat 'The Lady of the Lake'; the man who knew Dickens to the last character; the inevitable Scotchman with his Bobby Burns; and one was certain to hear much politics and religion. Rough fun and carols there were, too, in plenty; and on the Fourth and Christmas, wild hilar-²ity and the reckless disposal of hard-earned dollars."

With the rise of industries, fisheries were established along the Columbia especially at Astoria. This became the great fishing center. Here were seen the net drying platforms, slippery fish wharfs, and canneries exhaling the odor of cooking fish; the little, low homes of the fisherman and net makers of many nationalities from Norwegian to Portuguese; the crowded tenements of the Chinese and Japanese workers in the

canneries; and farther up the slope were the more pretentious homes of the packers and business men. On the river might be seen the rugged, red-faced, bare-footed seiners wading far out in the water, and the clumsy boat of the gill-netters floating upon the river. In a little tent at the end of the boat, the gill-netter sleeps, boils his coffee over a small kerosene stove, and fishes without ceasing. This fisherman on the river is as worthy a place in literature as the moonshiners of the South and the cowboys of the Rockies. The material is there; it waits only for the writer.

With the discovery of gold in Idaho, there began an endless line of freighters and miners to that country. Cattle were brought in and gradually the cowboy and the annual round-up became a part of the life of Oregon. Then came the sheepmen and the growth of feuds between the cattle and sheep men. The sheep ranch with its long sheds, its annual sheep shearing, and its mixtures of all nationalities and types became one of the industrial institutions.

When eastern Oregon was opened to settlement, the homesteader, the locator, and the claim jumper all became important types. Close upon that appeared the discouraged settler and the deserted shack.

With the granting of water rights, the deserted claims became prosperous farms with green fields of waving ~~xx~~ grain and the wheat king of the Inland Empire appeared.

Growth of industry increased need of means of transportation. The canoe gave way to the steamboat, and the bluff, red-faced, boisterous river man increased the number of types. Soon railroads were started, a railroad was followed, and today nearly all parts of the state are reached by rail.

Increased settlement produced growth in agriculture. Hop yards were laid out, and hop picking crowds became one of the picturesque scenes. The crowd is composed of men, women, and children, scores and scores of them belonging to family groups, and hundreds of young men off for a lark. Some of the crowd are people from the country; but most of them are the city's working population, with here and there some one who has joined the crowd to obtain material for magazine work.

Fruit growing has now become one of the important industries and crowds are seen in the berry fields and orchards from spring till fall.

Perhaps the most recent type to make its appearance in Oregon is the tourist. Everywhere are seen the

touring car and the camper. Whole families may be seen in the woods along the highway with their car, their tent and cooking utensils, their washing hung on the bushes to dry, and their fire made of the drifted wood encircled by a few stones.

Other types which might be mentioned are the forest rangers, the keepers of the look-out stations, either men or women. Then there is still to be found in places the mountaineer who has lived all his life back in the hills and emerges for the first time, an old man, to see and ride on "the cars".

Still other types might be mentioned, but one would lead to another and the list would run on endlessly. Enough have already been mentioned to give sufficient proof of a back-ground for a state literature.

In the review of the literature which has been produced in the state, no attempt will be made to give a complete list of authors. The discussion will be rather of types of literature with a few authors whose works illustrate these types. A longer list of authors will be given in the bibliography. All histories and scientific and religious works will be omitted from the discussion since in so brief a review, no fair idea of them could be given.

Almost the earliest form of literature to grow up in Oregon was the narrative of the trip across the plains. Most of the early emigrants kept a diary in which were recorded the events of the journey. Many of these were afterwards published in narrative form. One of the earliest was "A Journal of Travels Over the Rocky Mountains" by Joel Palmer, published in 1847. Two later editions were published in 1851 and 1852. This is the story of the emigration of about three thousand people by wagon train to Oregon in 1845. The trail led by Fort Laramie to Fort Bridger, thence by Soda Springs to Fort Hall. From there the Lewis River was followed on the southern bend to Fort Boise. On through the Grande Ronde Valley they went, down the Umatilla and Columbia till they arrived at the Dalles. They passed the Cascades south of Mt. Hood, going on through the Clackamas Valley to Oregon City. The journal was intended as a guide to future emigrants and was much in demand.

Another interesting narrative is "A Day with the Cow Column in 1843" by Jesse Applegate. This gives a detailed account of the proceedings of one day from four o'clock in the morning when the round-up of the cattle took place, till eight o'clock at night when the first watch was set.

These are typical of the vast amount of material on

the journeys that has been published since they all tell the same things in much the same way.

Later from these same emigrants who have become settlers, we get stories of pioneer days in Oregon, recollections of experiences and incidents in the new country. Such are the "Stories of Old Oregon" by George Andrew Waggoner; "Captain Gray's Company" by Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway; "Recollections of an Old Pioneer" by Peter H. Burnett; "Recollections of my Boyhood" by Jesse Applegate; "Oregon Boyhood" by Louis Albert Banks; "Early Oregon; Jottings of Personal Recollections of a Pioneer of 1850" by George E. Cole; "Blazing the Way on Pioneer Experiences" by W. W. Van Dusen; and numerous others of like kind.

From the early history of Oregon come the historical stories represented best by the works of Mrs. Emery Dye. These are based upon historical facts and in the main are historically accurate. The history is, however, given in story form, interspersed with conversations and vivid descriptions which make them read much like novels.

"The Conquest" is the story of Lewis and Clark. It begins with the active life of George Rogers Clark, the explorer's elder brother, during the war with the Indians in 1774, follows him through the fighting with

the British and their savage allies in the Revolutionary War along the western frontier and ends with William Clark's death in September 1838, after he had been at the head of the Indian affairs of the nation. This covers the settlement of the United States from the tide waters of the Old Dominion to the extreme north-western corner of its boundaries, covering the history of the country for a period of sixty-seven years.

Mrs. Dye's "McLoughlin and Old Oregon" is a picture of early days in Oregon from 1832 to 1849. This was the period when Dr. John McLoughlin was chief factor for the Hudson's Bay Company and therefore the leading figure. Similar, but of less interest, is her story of "McDonald of Old Oregon".

"Out of the early pioneer life has grown some biography and autobiography. Two authors have given us the life of Dr. John McLoughlin. "Dr. John McLoughlin, the Father of Oregon" by Frederick Van Voorhies *Holman* devotes but little space to his early life, but deals chiefly with his life as it is related to Oregon. The author answers many of the charges made against Dr. McLaughlin by the early settlers. This tribute is paid to the Doctor. "Of all the men whose lives are essential parts of the history of the Oregon Country, Dr. McLoughlin stands supremely first - there is no

second." ³ "Dr. John McLoughlin, Father of Oregon" by Edwin Vincent O'Hara follows much the same line of thought.

In "The River of the West", Mrs. Frances Fuller Victor has given what she calls the biography of Joe Meek, the mountain man; but it is more than the life of one man. It is the story of early Oregon.

Harvey Kimball Hines gives us the life of "Jason Lee, the Pioneer of Methodism and Civilization on the Pacific Coast". It deals especially with the organization of the mission and the part Lee played in inducing emigrants to Oregon.

"Pen Pictures of Representative Men of Oregon" by Frank E. Hodgkin and J. J. Galvin give brief biographies of some of the men prominent in early Oregon history.

Under the type of autobiographies comes "Fifty Years in Oregon" by T. T. Gear. Born in 1851 in Oregon, he grew up with the state, finally reaching the highest position in it, the office of governor, which he held for two terms. The story of his life is largely the story of the life of Oregon.

"Orange Jacobs", written by himself, contains many interesting, amusing, and instructive incidents in a life of eighty years or more, fifty-six of which were spent in Oregon.

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 3. Holman, Frederick Van Voorhies. Dr. McLoughlin, Father of Oregon. p. 172.

In reviewing the novels of Oregon authors, only those will be discussed whose setting is in the Northwest, since it would be impossible to cover all. The scenes of most of them are in Oregon, but some are laid in British Columbia, Idaho, and Alaska.

Oregonians speak with pride of "The Bridge of the Gods" by Frederick Homer Balch. This is a story of Indian Oregon before the time the white man, and is based upon the Indian legend of the Cascades given in the preceding chapter. The plot is slight, but the real value of the book lies in the vivid reproduction of the life of the Multnomah tribe, their superstitions, manners, and customs before they were influenced by the white man. Of this tribe the author made a thorough study so that he speaks with authority.

"Yamhills" is another Indian romance, which is written by J. C. Cooper. While its background is the soil, the woods, the streams, and the mountains of Oregon, it fails to give as faithful reproduction of Indian life as "The Bridge of the Gods".

"The Land Claimers" by John Fleming Wilson is a story of the timberlands of the Yaquina Bay country. It was the time of the locator and the timber claims, of packing in and packing out. The plot is the struggle of a man against double odds - ill health

and a worthless claim. It is an interesting story of pluck and grit. The author was one of the "packers in" hence he is able to portray the life on a claim in a realistic manner.

"Smiting the Rock" by George Palmer Putnam is a romance whose setting is in the land of sage-brush and junipers - in his own language, "the land of great distances". Here he gives to us glimpses of "the slivery juniper trees, sage-brush and brown earth". The plot deals with the struggle of one man, at the risk of his life, against the Bonanza Irrigation Company, which is failing to supply the settlers with their rightful quantity of water, thus causing the loss of their crops. This story shows the characteristic pride of the Oregonians in "our country and our town".

The most prolific fiction writer of Oregon is *Edison* Marshall. He presents the public with a new book on an average of every ten months. His settings are sometimes laid in Oregon, sometimes in other parts of the Northwest. His purpose is not merely to tell a story of adventure, but to bring the spirit of nature to the city dwellers. It is with the great, dark, silent forest and its shadowy inmates that he deals.

The setting of "Shepherds of the Wild" is laid in the wild mountainous regions of canyons and deep, dark

forests of the Salmon Mountains. The plot deals with the feuds between the cattle and sheep men. The setting is the most valuable part of the book and greatly overshadows the characters.

The story of the "Voice of the Pack" takes place in the Cascades. It deals with the stern life of the natural born woodsman and mountaineer and it is rich in nature lore.

"The Strength of the Pines" is the story of mountain feuds and takes place in the forests of Southern Oregon.

"The Snowshoe Trail" tells of the life of a trapper shut in the mountains by snow. It tells of moose-hunting, fights with bears, lost trails in the woods in mid-winter, and other similar experiences.

The "Isle of Retribution" is the author's last book, and generally regarded as his best. Here he has left the woods of Oregon and British Columbia and places his setting in the wasteland of Alaska. In this book his characters are more real and his dramatic situations more tense than in his other novels.

"Happy Valley" by Anne Shannon Monroe is a story of pioneer life in the cattle country of the Two Forks-the land of sagebrush. It deals with the claim settlers, their hardships and privations and their fight against the cattlemen.

"Rim of the Desert" by Ada Woodruff Anderson deals

also with the sage-brush region.

"The Heart of the Red Firs" by Ada Woodruff Anderson and "The Voice of the Big Firs" by Mrs. Agnette Lohm Midgarden^{Lohn} are both stories of the Hood River Valley. "The Heart of the Night Wind" by Vingie E. Roe is a story of the Siletz Country and has some especially good descriptions.

The short story is even more popular in Oregon literature than the novel and the number of short story writers is increasing rapidly. John Fleming Wilson has written two volumes of short stories - "Tad Sheldon" and "Across the Latitudes".

In the Tad Sheldon series, Tad, a manly, courageous lad, is the leader. The nine stories all relate adventures of him and members of his patrol. The Pacific Coast region furnishes the scene of the stories.

The second volume, "Across the Latitudes", is a collection of stories of the sea, and all reveal to some extent the daring of the seaman's life. There are stories such as "The Bad Egg" and "The Voice of Authority" which deal with the ocean liners; stories like "The Dog" and "A Periodical Proselyte" dealing with cast offs along the Pacific docks and islands of the sea, and there are stories like "Order No. 113" and "Neighbors" which teach the seaman's first lesson-devotion to duty.

Besides a number of short stories of adventure published in magazines, Edison Marshall has issued a volume called "The Heart of Little Shikara". Like his novels, the setting of these stories is laid in the forest and they deal with forest life. With the exception of the first story, "Little Shikara", all take place in Oregon.

"Marooned in Crater Lake" by Alfred Powers, is a story which appeared last October in St. Nicholas. The story is just what the title indicates. A boy, separated from his companions, is left on the lake alone, without means of escape. By the aid of some one-cent postage stamps, he makes a kite of a newspaper and succeeds in attracting the attention of the inspector. A simple unpretentious story it is, and an incident quite likely to take place.

Other short stories which might be mentioned are "Matt of the Waterfront" and "His Tribute", both juvenile stories by Florence Martin Eastland, "Stories of Nehalem" by Sam J. Cotton, and "The Urge" by Mrs. Edward Tyson Allen, which was one of the O'Henry prize stories.

The essay is a type which seems to be but little developed. "Letters from an Oregon Ranch" by Louise Stephens is a delightful example, however, of this

type. These letters are descriptive of a newcomer's experiences on a mountain ranch and are filled with the ^{nature} of that region.

The birds and the flowers of Oregon have received some attention from writers. "A First Book Upon the Birds of Oregon and Washington" was published in 1901 by W. R. Lord. It was immediately adopted for use in the public schools by the State Text Book Commission. There is nothing scientific about the book. It merely names the species and gives briefly some of the characteristics of each species.

"Key and Flora", by Albert R. Sweetser, does for the flowers what Mr. Lord's book does for the birds. It gives a list of the common wild flowers of Oregon with descriptions of each by which they may be easily recognized and tells also where their natural habitat may be found.

Books of travel and description are numerous, for Oregonians are extremely proud of their state scenery. Three of these which seem to be the best will be reviewed.

"Atlantis Arisen", by Mrs. Frances Fuller Victor, is best described by the sub-title "or all over Washington and Oregon". Through the Willamette Valley with observations on the scenery, flowers, and people, down into the forests of the Umpqua, back through the

Willamette Valley and up the Columbia, it takes us. While much that is said of the people would hardly apply to them now, yet it gives a good picture of them as they were in the latter part of the eighties.

George Palmer Putnam in his book, "In the Oregon Country", takes us on a delightful trip through "The Valley of Content" as he calls the Willamette Valley; along the Columbia, "the land of legends"; across the monotonous plains "gray with sage and brown with sun-burned grass", by stage; along the trails of the Cascades by pack horse; and canoeing on the Des Chutes through "the Grand Canyon of the Northwest". It is a splendid trip and one worth taking.

"The Columbia River; its History, its Myths, its Scenery, its Commerce", by W. D. Lyman, is exactly what its name indicates. It is the biography of a river told in an interesting manner.

This chapter would hardly be complete without some discussion of the journalistic work. A large amount of this work is published in the western magazines, especially the Sunset and includes descriptions of the scenery, industrial, and commercial articles, sporting accounts and almost any other subject which might be mentioned. Three writers whose work seems especially meritorious will be mentioned here.

Albert R. Sweetser of the botany department of the

University of Oregon is contributing a series of articles on the wild flowers to the Sunday Oregonian. Many of the flowers which were found in great numbers in the early days are rapidly disappearing, owing, according to Mr. Sweetser, to the increased number which are gathered for sale, and to the ruthless way the bulb or root is pulled with the flower. The purpose of the articles is to agitate a movement for state legislation to protect those flowers which are rapidly becoming extinct.

Ben Hur Lampman is another journalistic nature lover. He writes of the wild animals of Oregon and is agitating a national reserve in the southeastern part of the state which will protect the prong-horned deer or American antelope. "Only federal protection", he says, "of the most stringent sort can save from extinction that distinctively American species, the prong horn."⁴

William L. Finley writes of the birds. He has contributed a number of articles to the Sunset, bearing such titles as "The Basket Makers", "Jimmy", and "Two Studies in Blue", all concerning the birds. A few years ago he agitated the question of a reserve

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 4. Lampman, Ben Hur. Sunday Oregonian. Jan. 7, 1923. p. 3.

that would protect the birds that were becoming extinct through the destruction caused by the plume-hunters, and he was largely instrumental in having the Malheur Reservation created.

As yet, but little seems to have been done with the drama. With all the material for both tragedy and comedy, thus far it has not been utilized. Linton Lincoln Davies has published three one-act plays, "Cancelled Debts", 1915; "The Spade", 1918; and "Confession is Good for the Soul", 1919. Mary Carolyn Davies has published "The Shave with Two Faces", 1918. These are all simple little comedies and contain no local color whatever, but they represent all that the state has produced in the drama.

This closes the review of prose writing and we turn now to the poetry. Many have attempted it, but few of the writers of poetry have received any recognition outside their own state.

One of the favorite subjects in the early poetry was the trip across the plains or the pioneers. This story has been told in verse by Frances Henry. The overland voyage, its hardships and vicissitudes, the pictures, then turns to the pioneer cabin with its fireplace and historic rifle hanging near, "faithful in time gone by to feed him or to defend".

On these same subjects, Joaquin Miller whose book of Oregon poems, at least, can be claimed by the state, has written "The Heroes of Oregon", "Exodus for Oregon", and "Pioneers of the Great Emerald Isle". Three of these poems sing of the land itself "Oye-agua: Oregon", "Where Rolls the Oregon", and "The Great Emerald Land".

S. A. Clarke has written four lyrics or poems containing the lyric quality - "Song of the Pioneers", "Ode to the Pioneers", "Ninety-three: Looking Backward", "The Aryan Race: the Journey's End".

This theme has also been used by Samuel L. Simpson in "The Campfires of the Pioneers"; by Maude Ingersoll in "1849-89"; and by Maria L. T. Hidden in "Oregon Pioneers".

Oregon verse shows less of local color than the fiction. Aside from the poems on the pioneers and Joaquin Miller's "Book of Oregon Verse", "Rhymes of Our Valley" by Anthony Euwer on the Hood River Valley and "The Beautiful Willamette" by Samuel L. Simpson are the only ones that have sung of Oregon.

The present day poets who seem to be attracting the most attention are Mary Carolyn Davies, Grace Hall, and Hazel Hall.

Miss Davies has published four books of verse. Her first volume, "Drums in Our Street", published in 1918, is a collection of war poems. The second book,

"Youth Riding", is a book of lyrics containing poems such as "Spring Day", "Forest Dance", "To Other Mary's", "Youth Riding", "This is the Bitterest Thing to Know".

"Little Freckled Person" appeared in 1919. It is a book of verses written for children from a child's point of view. It contains such poems as "The Uncritical Kitten", "The Selfish Sea", "Tree Children", "The Zoo", "Cloud Magic", and others.

The fourth volume, "Outdoors and Us" was published in 1922. It contains bits of verse for children about birds, nature, animals, and the like, with illustrative pictures both in color and in black and white by Louise Caldwell.

Late last fall (1922) Grace Hall published her first book of poetry. Most of this had previously been published in magazines, but so popular was the little book, that by New Year's the first consignment consisting of one thousand copies, had been entirely exhausted.

The poet of today who has received the most recognition from the outside world is Hazel Hall. For several years she has contributed to the leading poetry magazines and the Yale Review, Century, Harper's Magazine, Outlook, New Republic, Dial, Nation, Bookman, and Literary Review. Many of these poems appeared in

her first collection called "Curtains", a group of lyric poems. This year she has published her second book, "Walkers". Miss Hall is a shut-in and gets most of her knowledge of the outside world from her window, The walk of the passers-by, she thinks, tells her more than if she had met them. This is the thought that is expressed as a keynote to the volume:

"They cool their speech upon the tongue,
 They sheathe a dagger in the eye;
 Yet like the winds they walk among
 They cry themselves in passing by."

Her poem "Three Girls" was selected by Braithwaite as one of the five best poems of the year 1920. The first stanza runs as follows:

"Three school girls pass this way each day;
 Two of them go in a fluttery way
 Of girls, with all that girlhood buys;
 But one goes with a dream in her eyes."

Braithwaite says of Miss Hall, "Out of the far west comes a woman poet to dispute the sovereignty of Sara Teasdale. She has the same perfected utterance of singing metres, the same intensity of mood, the same subtle intuition of comprehension and a similar vivid consciousness of the symbolic value of the simple and

innumerable forms of nature and experience."⁵

Writers are encouraged in their work throughout the state. Several of the larger cities have writers' clubs, Portland having one of about forty members. In March of this year a group of Oregon writers, including novelists, poets, critics, and others, held a conference at the University of Oregon for the purpose of encouraging the work. Courses in short story writing are offered in the colleges and in many of the high schools, and it may be that some time in the future Oregon will have a state literature of which she may be justly proud.

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5. Oregonian, April 23, 1923. p. 10.

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